ROUND 29

PERTH GLORY

		PG Games	PG Goals	NSL Games	NSL Goals
1	Jason PETKOVIC	55	0	210	0
2	Robert TRAJKOVSKI	73	4	159	6
3	Jamie HARNWELL	79	11	79	11
4	Ljubo MILICEVIC	25	3	26	3
5	Vinko BULJUBASIC	62	1	149	4
6	Gareth NAVEN (c)	134	6	146	6
7	Scott MILLER	137	13	186	16
8	Brad MALONEY	15	3	252	65
9	Alistair EDWARDS	63	23	143	33
10	Bobby DESPOTOVSKI	127	57	150	67
11	Kasey WEHRMAN	33	1	85	7
13	Anthony DANZE	0	0	0	0
14	Dion VALLE	33	0	33	0
15	Edgar ALDRIGHI JR	59	1	59	1
16	Damian MORI	24	19	323	167
17	Gary FARIA	23	3	23	3
18	Shane PRYCE	19	1	148	18
19	John CARBONE	48	3	48	3
20	Tony FRANKEN	39	0	278	0
21	PJ ROBERTS	7	0	44	1
22	Antonio NAGLIERI	0	0	0	0
23	Craig DEANS	29	1	65	2
24	Aaron COLE	1	0	1	0
25	Todd HARNWELL	1	0	1	0
26	Nick MRDJA	5	0	8	0
30	Tommi TOMICH	0	0	0	0

Coach – Bernd STANGE
Dev. Manager – Mich d'AVRAY

PARRAMATTA POWER

		PP Games	PP Goals	NSL Games	NSL Goals
1	Andrew CREWS	35	0	69	0
2	David BARRETT	41	0	347	12
3	Ahmad ELRICH	44	3	44	3
4	Nick ORLIC.	18	1	196	14
5	Alex TOBIN (c)	25	2	461	29
7	Steve EAGLETON	38	1	53	2
8	Walter ARDONE	37	4	165	17
9	Joe MILLER	23	9	23	9
10	Joel GRIFFITHS	51	15	79	23
11	Steve BERRY	49	3	79	6
12	Damian BROWN	20	1	52	4
13	Milan BLAGOJEVIC	42	3	197	4
14	Matt THOMPSON	18	1	18	1
15	Michael SANTALAB	29	2	55	4
16	Michael BROWN	2	0	2	0
17	Brendan SANTALAB	7	1	7	1
19	Daniel KUKUCKA	3	0	5	0
20	Les POGLIACOMI	8	0	86	0
21	Hamilton THORP	10	2	85	16
22	Joe VRKIC	42	1	125	3
23	Andrew CLARK	17	0	38	5
24	Liam REDDY	4	0	4	0
25	Brett HOLMAN	1	0	1	0
26	Luke ROODENBURG	11	4	11	4
27	Matthew BIGGINS	1	0	1	0
28	Peter BENNETT	47	4	149	7
29	David LEE	11	2	11	2
30	Mike GIBSON	13	0	288	1

Coach – David MITCHELL

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4th Official: Angelo Nardi **Match Inspector:** Jim Sharp

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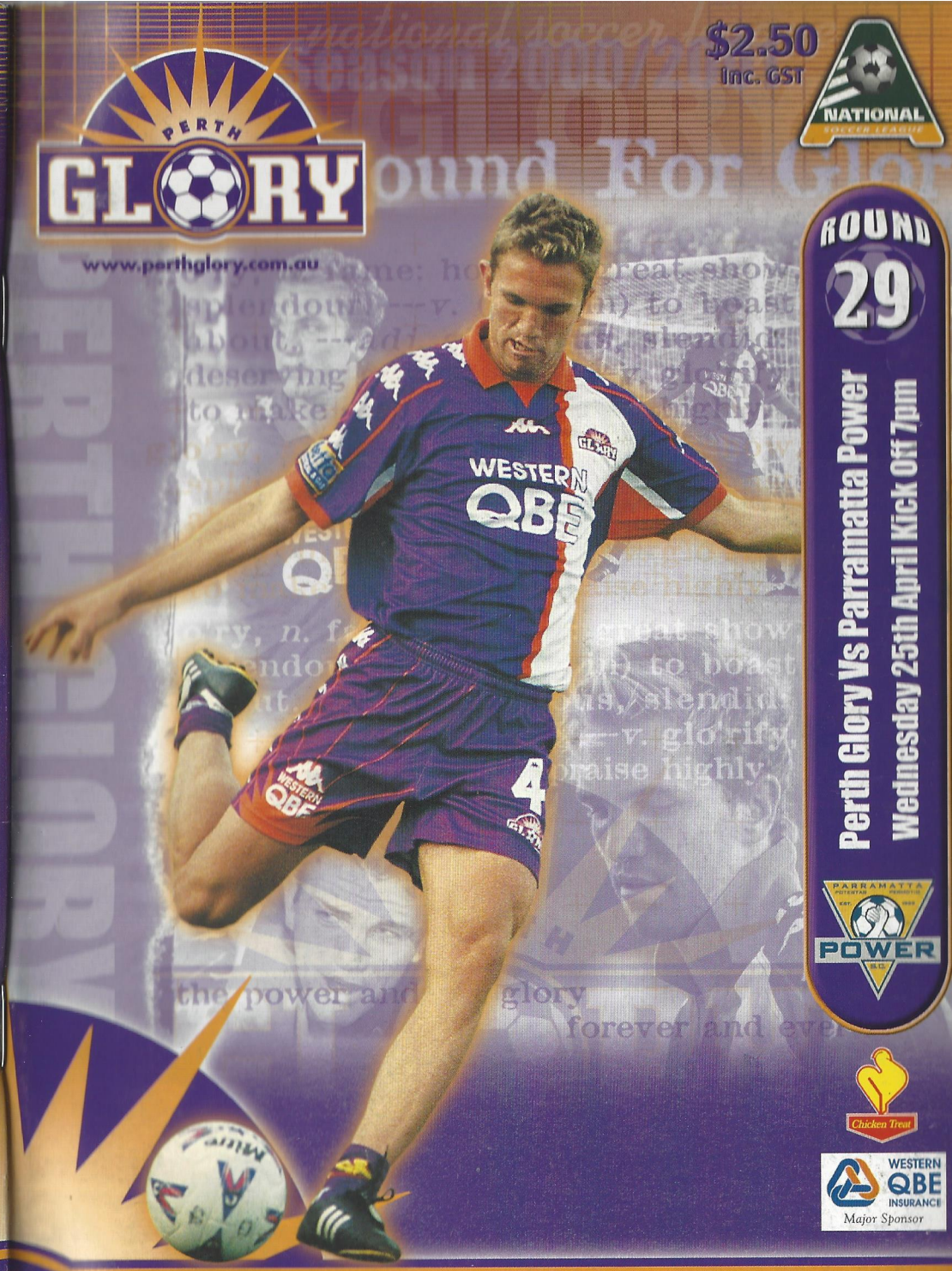

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Sporting Issues
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Artwork & Design:
Lee Ingram - Mind Field Design
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Both James Butler & Reece Bailey celebrated their birthday at our last home game, against Melbourne Knights on Saturday April 14, pictured here with their favourite Glory stars Jason Petkovic and Bobby Despotovski and surrounded by friends.

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EDITORIAL

SOCCEROOS STILL TO FACE REAL GOAL

Congratulations to the Socceroos for successfully overcoming the first hurdle in their bid to qualify for the 2002 World Cup Finals.

But what looked like being a mere formality turned into an absolute farce as the Aussies rattled up a ridiculous 66 goals in their four group games and set several crazy new world records along the way.

One of the biggest gripes of non-soccer supporters, and some who do follow the game, is that there aren't enough goals scored in the world's most popular sport, particularly when you compare it to other mainstream sports in this country like Australian Rules or basketball - even cricket has big scores. But 22-0 and 31-0 - there surely wouldn't be many people who'd find these sort of contests exciting or entertaining. And what about Archie Thompson scoring 13 goals himself in a single match, to set a new world mark for an international fixture?

Thompson is a promising young striker, but with all due respect to the Marconi player, to be the holder of such a record for a sport that's played in over 200 countries – it just doesn't seem to quite fit, particularly when you think of all the great strikers who have graced the international arena over the past 100 years or so.

That's not to have a go at Thompson – after all, all he can do is put the ball in the back of the net and it's not his or the Socceroos job to pick the opposition. But it's a record that could well stand for some time and if soccer fans around the world look at his benchmark in 50 or 60 years' time, they might well wonder why this "superstriker" isn't mentioned in the same breath as some of the more recognised strikers of bygone years and revered around the globe as they are. It almost seems like a bit of an "artificial" record - it's just so farcical.

However, like Thompson's position, you can understand coach Frank Farina's attitude...to a point. As each World Cup comes and goes without Australian representation, the pressure on the latest squad and their coach grows, and with so many Australians now plying their trade in the top leagues around the world, expectations from the media and the increasing number of soccer fans in Australia are also rising.

Ever since he was appointed national coach about 20 months ago, there's only been one thing on Farina's mind - qualification for the 2002 World Cup. And when questioned after his team hammered Tonga 22-0 (then a new world record for an international match) in its opening game, Farina said he wasn't going to take any chances by easing off against anyone.

Going into the game against the American Samoans, the Australians were already well in front of Fiji on goal difference. So, with the scoreline reading 16-0 at half-time, was it really necessary to show absolutely no mercy and continue to plunder a side consisting largely of teenagers and possibly a taxi driver or a village carpenter? And to think the Australians were keen to drag the likes of Mark Viduka and Harry Kewell over to take part...

It's one thing for the Socceroos to treat the match seriously and maintain their professionalism throughout, as they obviously did, but does this sort of match do anyone any good? It surely can't help the Socceroos in their preparations, who must now overcome (probably) New Zealand, before taking on the fifth-placed country in the South American qualifiers in a two-legged affair. And such a mismatch certainly won't have benefited the American Samoans as they try to gain some sort of confidence and build on the development stage they're obviously at, particularly the 15 or 16-year-olds, many of whom had never even played a game with soccer boots on, according to some reports. The fact is the Samoans would have struggled to keep the score under double figures if they'd had 22 players on the pitch, but perhaps the Australian could have slowed down a little, particularly after the break.

Having said all that, it is difficult to know what to do to avoid such a situation, because obviously, as part of the region, Australia has to play these countries. But, while international soccer in general is becoming much closer and more competitive, particularly over the past decade or so, as recent World Cups have shown, Australia seems to be rapidly outgrowing its Oceania neighbours, and if it hasn't already over the last fortnight, it could become quite an embarrassment for FIFA.

Perhaps a solution might be for the Pacific Island nations to determine their own champion, who could then play in a round-robin group, on a home and away basis, with Australia and New Zealand, who like the Socceroos, are clearly a level above most of the other Oceania nations, with the winner of that mini-group going on to play the fifth-placed South American team. At least it might bypass some of these ridiculous matches and put an end to some of the crazy results that came out of Coffs Harbour recently.

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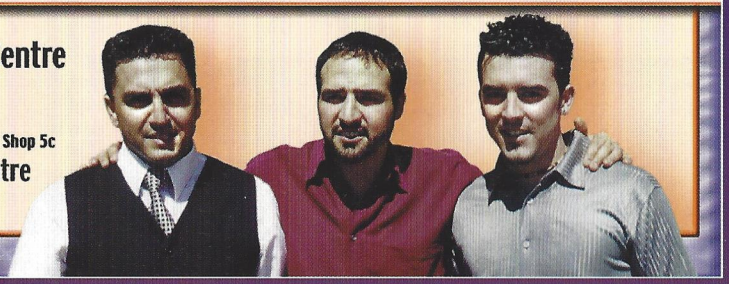

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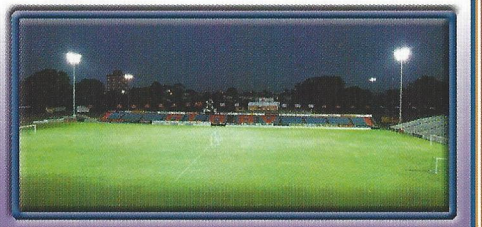

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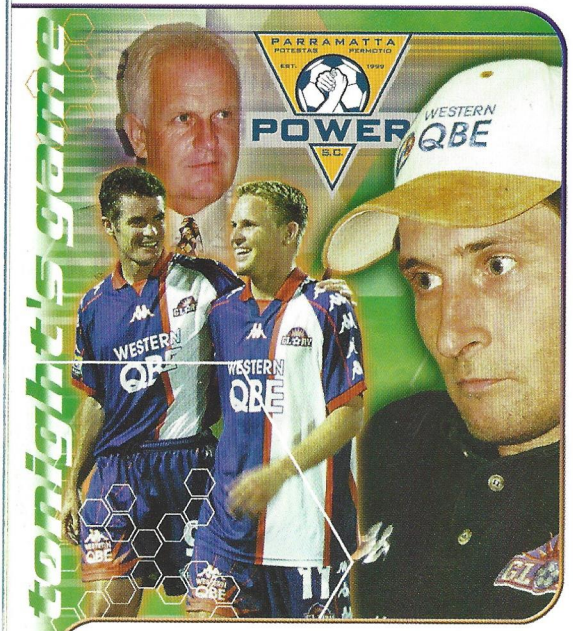
THE POWER AND THE GLORY



tonight's game

Look back at pre-season NSL predictions and you can bet your boots most pundits would have had Parramatta Power figuring strongly in their tips for the top six. It was certainly the case in The West Australian, with all five tipsters favouring the Power to be heavily involved come play-offs time.

On paper the team looked formidable, plus there was the recruitment of Socceroos captain Alex Tobin from Adelaide and striker Joe Miller, who used to ply his trade in Scotland with Aberdeen and Celtic. And there was the canny David Mitchell at the helm as coach. He had led Sydney United to the grand final in the 1998/99 season and big things were being predicted after his move to a different part of the Big Smoke.

So, the Power's failure to really catch fire has been one of the mysteries of this season. Okay, there was a stumbling start with a home loss to Marconi Stallions, but the Parramatta outfit backed up later with away victories over the gritty Newcastle United and Sydney Olympic and a gutsy away draw with South Melbourne.

It did get up to third place on the ladder after Round 12, but the second half of the season has been tinged with disappointment for the Sydney side, getting thumped 5-1 away to Wollongong Wolves and losing 3-0 at home to South Melbourne.

The Power also lost at home in mid-January to Perth Glory, with the visitors getting across the line with a last-minute penalty from Bobby Despotovski in the 3-2 victory.

Damian Mori and Kasey Wehrman, with his first goal for the Glory after 26 appearances, were the other scorers, while the classy Miller got both Parramatta's goals.

The Glory, however, will be taking nothing for granted tonight, the team's final home fixture of the home-and-away program, and the Anzac spirit might be needed.

It has always been an intriguing battle of wits and tactics when Mitchell and Glory coach Bernd Stange have crossed swords. Mitchell came out ahead when he was with Sydney United, knocking off the Glory in the preliminary final two seasons ago, and also had the upper hand when the Power won 3-1 in Sydney last season.

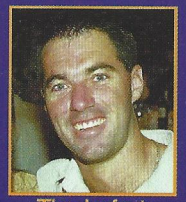
Joel Griffiths and Jon Angelucci (now with Canberra) gave the Power a 2-0 half-time lead. Alistair Edwards reduced the deficit just after the break, but Angelucci restored it again with his second goal after 74 minutes.

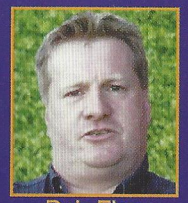
The return game in Perth in March, 2000, was another cracker, embroidered with plenty of controversy, 11 bookings and two red cards. Troy Halpin got his marching orders for the Glory and Mark Byrnes saw red in the dying minutes for the visitors.

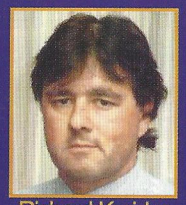
The Glory staggered over the line as 2-1 victors with goals from the Brazilian striker Aurelio and Rob Trajkovski, his second for the club, before Walter Ardone steered in a late reply in a breathtaking contest that was full of goalmouth incidents. Shades of things to come?

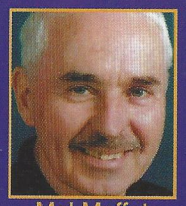
By Mel Moffat
of *The West Australian*

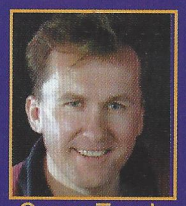
TIPS ON TONIGHT'S GAME


Tim Lefort
Perth Glory 4-2


Bob Figg
Perth Glory 3-0


Richard Kreider
Perth Glory 4-1


Mel Moffat
Perth Glory 2-0


George Temple
Perth Glory 2-1

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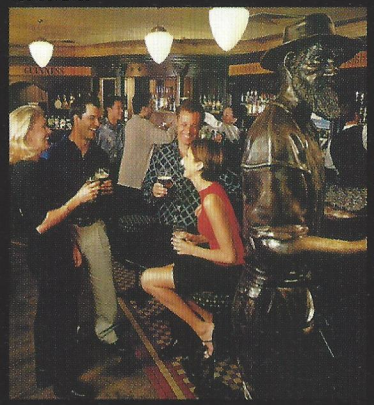

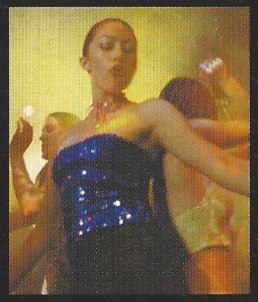

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LAST ROUND IN REVIEW

BRISBANE STRIKERS 1 PERTH GLORY 4

Perth Glory, led by a hat-trick from Damian Mori, continued their march towards a top-two spot with a convincing 4-1 win against Brisbane. Defender Jamie Harnwell gave the visitors the lead after 13 minutes when he headed home after Strikers keeper Corey Baldock had failed to hold a corner. Peter Buljan, on loan from the Glory, should have equalised for Brisbane after 31 minutes but shot straight at Jason Petkovic, and Mori made them pay, heading Brad Maloney's cross past Baldock seconds later. Buljan partly atoned for his miss, setting up Fernando Rech, who pulled one back for the home side before the break. However, Mori made it 3-1 with a superb finish after 55 minutes, then grabbed his third hat-trick of the season and put the result beyond doubt, scoring from close range after great work from Bobby Despotovski.

PARRAMATTA POWER 1 ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 0

A first goal of the season by Parramatta's Steve Berry almost certainly ended Adelaide's hopes of appearing in a remarkable 13th successive finals campaign. The home side dominated the match and but for wasteful finishing would have won by a much more convincing margin. Matt Thompson headed wide of an open goal after 15 minutes, then Damien Brown let the visitors off the hook, volleying over from close range. Louis Brain had Adelaide's only real chance of the first half but his shot was cleared off the line by David Barrett. Ten minutes after the break, the Power finally found the target with Berry heading past Adrian Cagalj. Michael Santalab, Brown and Thompson all missed good chances to increase the lead and they were nearly made to pay with Scott Tunbridge and Claudio Pelosi going close for Adelaide in the closing minutes.

NEWCASTLE UNITED 0 MARCONI STALLIONS 1

A rare goal by defender Buddy Farah gave Marconi a priceless three points from their difficult trip to Newcastle and consolidated their position in the top six. The home side and their supporters had hoped to send departing coach Lee Sterrey out with a victory in his final home match in charge and they almost had a dream start. After a series of four successive corners, Todd McManus headed against the bar and Mark Wilson pounced on the rebound but sent his volley sailing over the woodwork. Five minutes later, Farah made his way forward and scored what proved to be the decisive goal. However, the visitors were unable to take control and as conditions became wetter and more difficult, the quality of the game suffered, although both sides had a couple of scoring chances as the game went from end to end.

FOOTBALL KINGZ 3 WOLLONGONG WOLVES 2

Two goals in the final five minutes sent Wollongong crashing to a shock defeat at the hands of Football Kingz in Auckland. To make matters worse for the defending NSL champions, striker Stuart Young was sent off in the hectic finale and will miss his side's next match. It was Young who opened the scoring after 13 minutes when he tucked the ball past Julio Cuello after being found brilliantly by Alvin Ceccoli. But Paul Urlovic headed an equaliser for the Kingz against the run of play on the stroke of half-time. Paul Reid gave the Wolves the lead back just after the break and they looked to be cruising towards three points before Ceccoli was ruled to have fouled Wynton Rufer in the area and the Kiwi champion made it 2-2 from the spot. Then deep into injury-time, Rufer pounced on a defensive mistake to snatch a dramatic winner.

CANBERRA COSMOS 3 NORTHERN SPIRIT 2

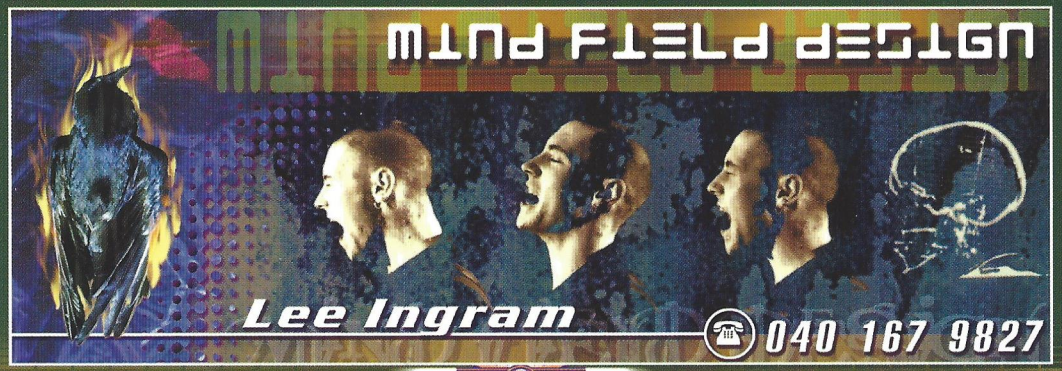
A controversial last-minute penalty gave Canberra their third straight win in an entertaining match at Bruce Stadium. Alex Castro gave the home side a dream start when he smashed the ball past Spirit keeper John Perosh after just 48 seconds. It was almost 2-0 18 minutes later but Milton Cortes' header crashed off the upright. Anthony Giannasca made a fine save to deny Robert Enes, but the Cosmos keeper was helpless soon after when Ben Burgess headed the equaliser. Former Socceroo Craig Foster put the visitors ahead, firing home from an acute angle after 70 minutes, before Castro grabbed his second of the match with five minutes remaining. Then in injury-time, Perosh tangled with Spirit striker Jon Angelucci on the edge of the area and referee Gerry Connolly awarded a penalty which Cortes coolly converted.

SYDNEY UNITED 3 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2

Any remaining hope Sydney Olympic had of a top-two finish was all but extinguished by local rivals Sydney United. United, inspired by former Croatian international Aljosa Asanovic twice came from behind before substitute Zlatko Arambasic scored the winner after 68 minutes. Things didn't start so well for Asanovic when he gave away possession that led to Pablo Cardozo opening the scoring. But two minutes later the Croatian's free-kick was glanced on by Commins Menapi and Francis Awaritefe scrambled the ball home from close range. Cardozo restored Olympic's lead after 43 minutes with a superb drive from outside the area, only for Damon Collina to head past his own keeper seconds later. United dominated the second half and were rewarded when Arambasic met Asanovic's free-kick with a flying header to complete the scoring.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 3 EASTERN PRIDE - FORFEITED

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS - BYE 3-0 WIN



NSL STATISTICS

LEAGUE TABLE AND FIXTURES

LEAGUE TABLE AFTER ROUND 28

TEAM	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
South Melbourne**	28	17	6	3	58	21	63	+37
Perth Glory**	28	15	7	4	70	32	58	+38
Wollongong Wolves**	28	14	7	6	70	38	55	+32
Sydney Olympic**	28	14	5	7	53	35	53	+18
Marconi Stallions **	28	11	7	8	40	32	46	+8
Melbourne Knights**	28	11	6	9	55	42	45	+13
Football Kingz**	28	9	7	10	47	44	40	+3
Adelaide City Force**	28	9	7	10	46	48	40	–2
Sydney United**	28	9	6	11	41	52	39	–11
Canberra Cosmos**	28	9	4	13	49	46	37	+3
Parramatta Power*	28	10	3	14	38	44	36	–6
Northern Spirit**	28	6	8	12	37	40	32	–3
Brisbane Strikers*	28	7	8	12	48	54	32	–6
Newcastle United**	28	5	8	13	31	48	29	–17
Eastern Pride**	28	3	5	18	32	55	0^	–23

* Already awarded a 3-0 win bye due to Carlton's withdrawal.

^ All points deducted due to breach of NSL regulations - subject to appeal

OTHER FIXTURES THIS ROUND

Wed 25-Apr-01	Football Kingz	V	South Melbourne	Ericsson Stadium
Wed 25-Apr-01	Sydney Olympic	V	Newcastle United	Belmore Sports Ground
Wed 25-Apr-01	Northern Spirit	V	Wollongong Wolves	North Sydney Oval
Wed 25-Apr-01	Adelaide City Force	V	Canberra Cosmos	Hindmarsh Stadium
Wed 25-Apr-01	Marconi Stallions	V	Melbourne Knights	Marconi Stadium
Cancelled	Sydney United	V	Eastern Pride	
	Brisbane Strikers		BYE	

FIXTURES LAST ROUND

Sun 29-Apr-01	Melbourne Knights	V	Newcastle United	Knights Stadium
Sun 29-Apr-01	Brisbane Strikers	V	Marconi Stallions	Ballymore Stadium
Sun 29-Apr-01	Canberra Cosmos	V	Perth Glory	Bruce Stadium
Sun 29-Apr-01	Wollongong Wolves	V	Adelaide City Force	WIN Stadium
Sun 29-Apr-01	South Melbourne	V	Northern Spirit	Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 29-Apr-01	Sydney United	V	Football Kingz	Sydney United Sprts Ctr.
Cancelled	Sydney Olympic	V	Eastern Pride	
	Parramatta Power		BYE	

NSL STATISTICS

LEADING GOALSCORERS

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE'S LEADING GOALSCORERS

Player	Club	Last Week	Total
Damian MORI	Perth Glory	3	19
Bobby DESPOTOVSKI	Perth Glory	-	17
Ben BURGESS	Northern Spirit	1	15
Saso PETROVSKI	Wollongong Wolves	-	15

PERTH GLORY'S LEADING GOALSCORERS

Player	Last Week	Total
Damian MORI	3	19
Bobby DESPOTOVSKI	-	17
Jamie HARNWELL	1	6
John CARBONE	-	3
Alistair EDWARDS	-	3
Gary FARIA	-	3
Brad MALONEY	-	3
Scott MILLER	-	3

NSL STATISTICS

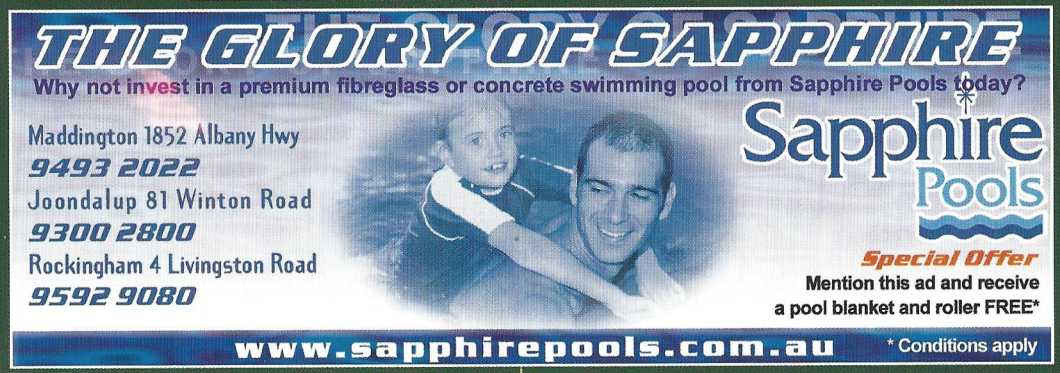
CROWD COMPARISON

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE CROWD COMPARISON

Round 28 (2000/2001)	**19,337**
Round 28 (1999/2000)	**35,114**
Cumulative after Round 28 (2000/2001)	**985,085**
Cumulative after Round 28 (1999/2000)	**1,145,632**

PERTH GLORY HOME CROWD COMPARISON

Perth Glory v Parramatta Power (1999/2000)	**11,737**
Perth Glory v Parramatta Power BEST CROWD (1999/2000)	**11,737**



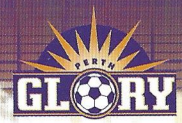
BOUND FOR GLORY

Date	Opponents	H/A	F-A	Att	1 Jason PETKOVIC	2 Rob TRAJKOVSKI	3 Jamie HARNWELL	4 Ljubo MILICEVIC	5 Vinko BULJUBASIC	6 Gareth NAVEN	7 Scott MILLER	8 Brad MALONEY	9 Alistair EDWARDS	10 Bobby DESPOTOVSKI	11 Kasey WEHRMAN	12 Peter BULJAN	14 Dion VALLE	15 Edgar JUNIOR	16 Damian MORI	17 Gary FARIA	18 Shane PRYCE	19 John CARBONE	20 Tony FRANKEN	21 PJ ROBERTS	23 Craig DEANS	24 Aaron COLE	25 Todd HARNWELL	26 Nick MRDJA
Sat 14 Oct	Wollongong Wolves	A	1-1	5443			4	5						Y				Y	1									
Sat 21	South Melbourne	H	1-0	14081		R						17			Y				Y	5								
Sun 29	Sydney United	A	1-2	5483		X	1				19	12		Y	Y	5						5						
Sat 4 Nov	Sydney Olympic	H	1-1	12894		X		5							Y	5		Y	12	4								
Sat 11	Eastern Pride	A	3-2	1846						12	Y	1				5			12 1		1	5						
Sat 18	Football Kingz	H	5-1	11909		17	14					12 2		Y 12		Y 5	5		3	5								
Fri 24	Northern Spirit	A	0-2	5764						Y 12						5				5								
Sat 2 Dec	Adelaide City Force	H	2-0	10912			Y				14			12 1		5	5					Y 21 1		5				
Sun 10	Newcastle United	H	4-0	11873		14	Y				Y			Y 12 2		5	5	21 1				Y		5				
Bye	Carlton	A	3-0																									
Sat 23	Marconi Stallions	H	0-1	13813								21	5	X		5	5	Y	14			Y		5				
Sat 30	Melbourne Knights	A	1-1	4871				Y			Y																	
Sat 6 Jan	Brisbane Strikers	H	7-2	11942				14			12 1		5	1			5	Y 9	4	1		5						
Fri 12	Parramatta Power	A	3-2	5071	Y	23						5	8	12 1	1			X	1			5			5			
Sat 20	Canberra Cosmos	H	3-0	13277	Y	8					Y	Y 5	5	1					1	1	9	5						
Sat 27	Wollongong Wolves	H	1-1	16019		8	1			5	X	Y 5	6							15		5						
Sun 4 Feb	South Melbourne	A	1-1	12917			Y 1			5		17	5	9	Y					5					6			
Sat 10	Sydney United	H	5-1	13278			24			1	1		15	2	X			Y	1			5		Y 5	Y 21	5		
Sun 18	Sydney Olympic	A	3-3	8669									14 1	1				21	Y 1			5		5				
Sat 24	Eastern Pride	H	2-1	11732								R	24 1									22 1			5			8
Fri 2 Mar	Football Kingz	A	3-3	3872			1		5			X	24 1											5				8
Sat 10	Northern Spirit	H	4-1	11991	Y								15	2					2			5			Y			
Fri 16	Adelaide City Force	A	6-4	4030							1		1	14 1			5		1		14	5 1						
Fri 23	Newcastle United	A	0-1	5328		4	Y	5					15									5						
Bye	Carlton	H	3-0																									
Sat 7 Apr	Marconi Stallions	A	2-0	3348		X		5		Y		23	Y 1		5					1		5					8	14
Sat 14	Melbourne Knights	H	1-0	13170				5		Y		Y 12										s			Y			8
Fri 20	Brisbane Strikers	A	4-1	1590			1				9		5	Y 24				19	3			5			X			8
Wed 25	Parramatta Power	H																										
Sun 29	Canberra Cosmos	A																										
	Perth Glory Appearances				55	73	79	25	62	134	137	15	63	127	33	21	33	59	24	23	19	48	39	7	29	1	1	5
	Perth Glory Goals				0	4	11	3	1	6	13	3	23	57	1	1	0	1	19	3	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
	NSL Appearances				210	159	79	26	149	146	186	252	143	150	85	98	33	59	323	23	148	48	278	44	65	1	1	8
	NSL Goals				0	6	11	3	4	6	16	65	33	67	7	25	0	1	167	3	18	3	0	1	2	0	0	0

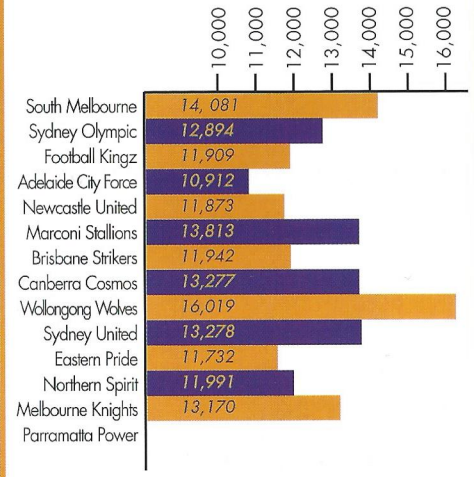
= Played = Yellow Card = Red Card = Substitute = Goals Scored = Substituted by = Suspended

* Please note that Craig Deans received a yellow card while playing for Carlton SC

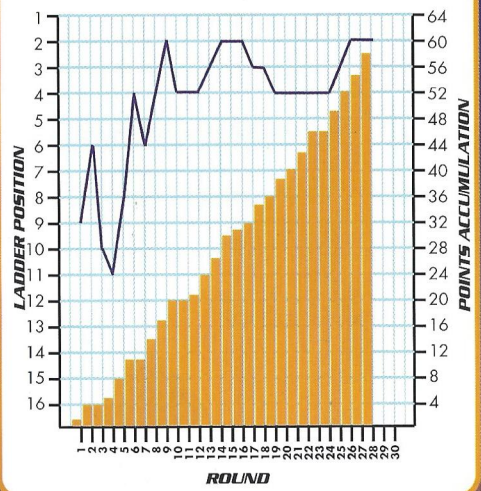
SEASON STATISTICS



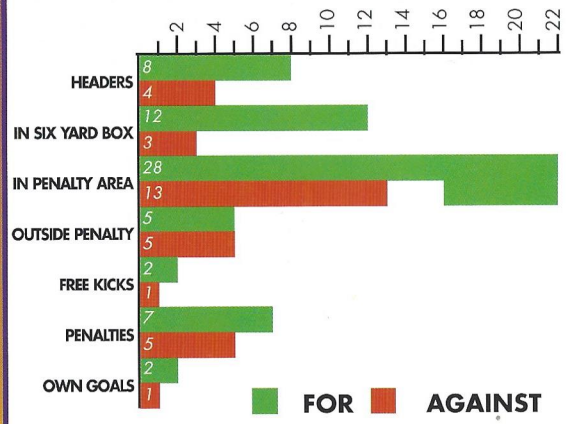
CROWDS AT PERTH OVAL



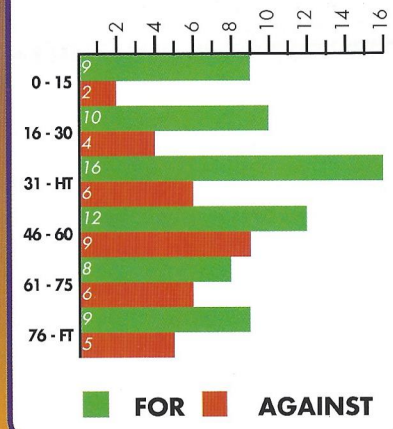
POINTS AND POINTS ACCUMULATION



PERTH GLORY GOALS HOW THEY WERE SCORED



PERTH GLORY GOALS WHEN THEY WERE SCORED



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PARRAMATTA POWER

CLUB HISTORY

Parramatta Power were formed as a completely new entity for the 1999/2000 NSL season. Of the initial squad of 14 players who started training in early August 1999, all but one were signed from 1998/99 minor premiers Sydney United, not to mention inaugural coach David Mitchell, who had led United to successsful seasons in 1997/98 and 1998/99. The Power have the financial backing of the Parramatta (Rugby) League Club - one of the biggest clubs of its type in Australia. The League club has an 85 per cent stake in the Power, and NSL fees have been paid for the club's first five years. The start-up budget for the new club was thought to be around $4 million. Much of the club's full-time squad has plenty of experience behind them with seasoned veterans Alex Tobin (461 NSL games), David Barrett (347) and Milan Blagojevic (197, plus several seasons overseas), mixing it with newer young guns like Luke Roodenburg. This season has been another up-and-down one for the Sydney side, with the club climbing as high as third place after Round 12, only to stumble again after Christmas and they will be extremely disappointed at having missed the playoffs again.

Major signings: Alex Tobin (Force), Hamilton Thorp (Glory), Nick Orlic (South Melbourne), Andrew Clark (Cosmos), Les Pogliacomi (Wolves), Joe Miller (Dundee United - Scotland), David Lee
Major losses: Stephen Laybutt (Feyenoord - Holland), Mile Sterjovski (Lille - France), Jacob Burns (Leeds United - England), Richard Plesa (Sydney United), John Gibson (Stallions), Barney Smith and Jon Angelucci (both Cosmos), Danny Townsend

HEAD-TO-HEAD RECORD (ALL NSL MATCHES)

v Opponent	P	W	D	L	F	A	Best result	Worst result
v Adelaide City Force	4	2	0	2	3	5	1-0	0-3
v Brisbane Strikers	4	1	1	2	6	8	3-1	1-3
v Canberra Cosmos	4	1	0	3	5	7	1-0	0-1
v Carlton	2	2	0	0	5	1	3-1	2-0
v Eastern Pride	6	3	2	1	11	4	4-0	1-2
v Football Kingz	4	1	0	3	3	9	1-0	0-4
v Marconi Stallions	4	1	1	2	4	5	2-0	2-0
v Melbourne Knights	4	1	0	3	5	8	2-1	3-1
v Newcastle	4	3	1	0	8	3	3-0	0-0
v Northern Spirit	4	2	1	1	4	2	2-0	0-1
v Perth Glory	3	1	0	2	6	6	3-1	1-2
v South Melbourne	4	1	1	2	4	8	1-0	0-3
v Sydney Olympic	4	2	0	2	7	5	3-1	1-2
v Sydney United	6	3	1	2	11	7	4-0	0-1
v Wollongong Wolves	4	0	0	4	5	13	3-4	1-5

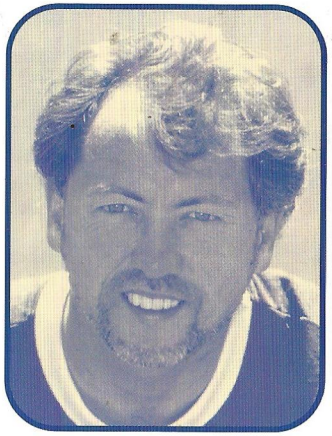
PERTH GLORY V PARRAMATTA POWER PREVIOUS RESULTS

1999/2000	In Sydney	Power	3	Glory	1
	In Perth	Glory	2	Power	1
2000/01	In Sydney	Power	2	Glory	3

COACH PROFILE
David Mitchell

Coaching career - National Soccer League

Seasons	Club	Games	W-D-L
1996/97	Sydney Olympic	10	03-04-03
1997/98-98/99	Sydney United	60	30-15-15
1999/2000-2000/01	Parramatta Power	62	25-08-29
TOTAL NSL		**132**	**58-27-47**



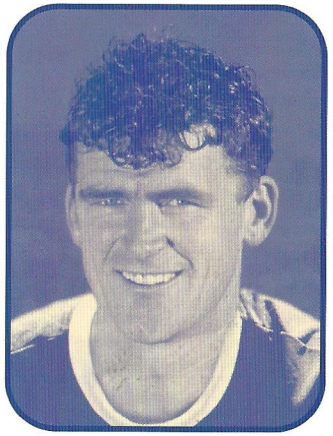
Five facts about David Mitchell

- Born in Glasgow, played for junior teams in South Australia
- Represented Australia at the 1981 World Youth Cup, held in Australia
- Played 108 games and scored 33 goals in the NSL for Adelaide City Force, Sydney City, Sydney Olympic and Sydney United between 1980 and 1999
- Played for Glasgow Rangers (Scotland), Eintract Frankfurt (Germany), Feyenoord (Netherlands), Chelsea, Newcastle United, Swindon Town and Millwall (England), Altay (Turkey) and Selangor (Malaysia)
- Played 45 games and scored 13 goals for the Socceroos between 1981 and 1993

CAPTAIN PROFILE
Alex Tobin

Playing career - National Soccer League

Seasons	Club	Games	Goals
1984-1999/00	Adelaide City Force	436	27
20000/01	Parramatta Power	25	2
TOTAL NSL		**461**	**29**

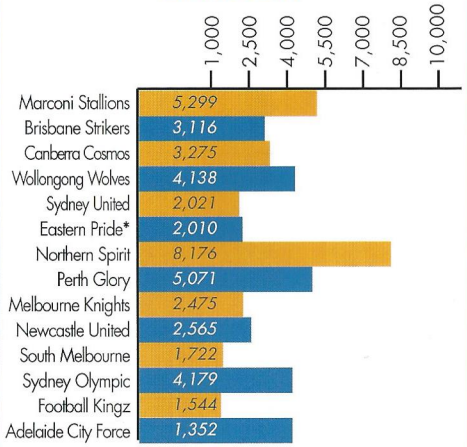


Five facts about Alex Tobin

- Born in Adelaide, came through the West Torrens-Birkalla juniors
- Represented Australia at the under -20 level in 1985
- Played 113 games and scored three goals for the Socceroos between 1988 and 1999 - as captain from 1996 to 1999
- Has won three NSL championships, with Adelaide City Force in 1986, 1991/92 and 1993/94
- Became the most experienced NSL player, this season, when he surpassed Sergio Melta's record of having played 445 (now retired), set to play his 462nd game tonight.

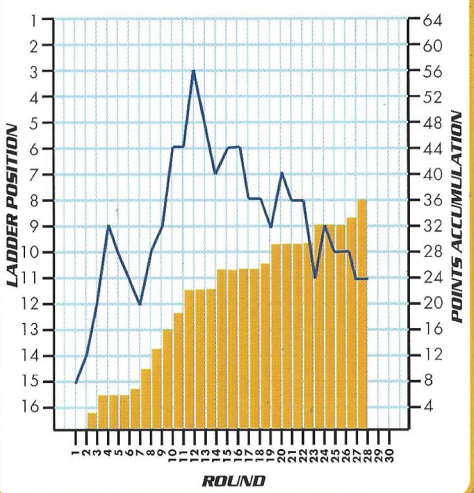
parramatta
POWER

CROWDS AT PARRAMATTA STADIUM



*Played at Carrington Oval

LADDER POSITION & POINTS ACCUMULATION



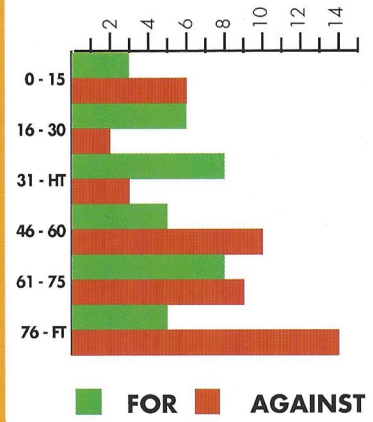
PARRAMATTA POWER FORM GUIDE

Rnd 28 v Adelaide City Force (H)	**- Won 1-0**
Rnd 27 v Northern Spirit (A)	**- Drew 0-0**
Rnd 26 v Football Kingz (H)	**- Lost 3-1**
Rnd 25 v Eastern Pride (A)	**- Lost 2-1**
Rnd 24 v Sydney Olympic (H)	**- Won 3-1**

LEADING GOALSCORERS THIS SEASON

Joe Miller	9
Joel Griffiths	4
Luke Roodenburg	4

PARRAMATTA POWER GOALS WHEN THEY WERE SCORED



Team history supplied by Andrew Howe and profiles supplied by Andrew Howe courtesy of Soccer Australia, first published in the Season 2000/2001 National Soccer League Media Guide

NICK MRDJA

GLORIOUS GAME AGAINST KNIGHTS

If a week is a long time in politics, a month is a positive eternity in soccer.

Just a few weeks ago, Nick Mrdja was glad to have made it through a trial period and to have been offered a contract with the Glory. Now he has started two games for the club, and has a highly impressive performance against Melbourne Knights under his belt.

"I just tried to hold the ball up and play a position," said Mrdja, who made his full home debut in front of over 13,000 people, an audience that included his Dad, sister and cousins.

The highlight for the talented youngster was his role in the vital goal, scored by Bobby Despotovski.

"Jason Petkovic kicked it up forward and I saw Bobby was running for it," said Mrdja. "I thought the defender might get a head to it, so I tried to get in front. As the defender headed it out, it came to me and I saw Bobby running into space and slipped it through to him."

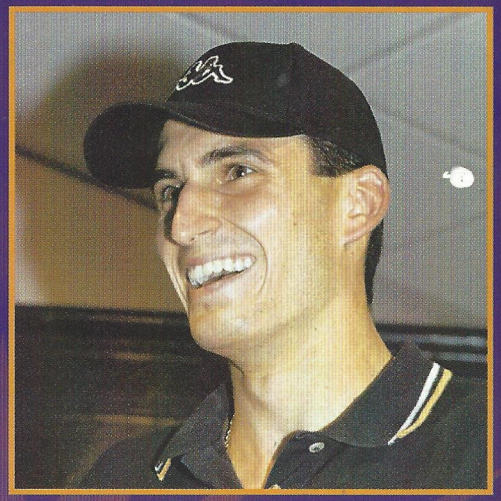
The only downside for the former Bayswater, Canberra Cosmos and Perth Soccer Club player came when his dream goal was ruled out for an infringement.

"Jamie Harnwell won the header and I just flicked the ball up and over the keeper. I went to celebrate and then saw the referee pointing back into the area. He told Jamie Harnwell it was for pushing. I knew I couldn't have been offside because I had two players behind me."

Mrdja's understandable disappointment was mitigated by the delight he took in his full home debut.

"It was a very good feeling. It was abuzz. I was a bit nervous and I wanted to get a few good touches. It worked out like that, fortunately."

The young striker also impressed the man who



matters most, coach Bernd Stange.

"I was impressed, we are very keen to play local players from Western Australia," Stange said. "Nick did a good job, he was running for his life and that is the most important thing.

"It's good to know our Premier League, or State league, is a good base for professional soccer. After Jamie Harnwell, Gary Faria and others, Nick did a good job.

"He has a lot to learn of course, but he is very quick and he listens to what we teach him, which is why I think he will have a good future."

Mrdja knows Bobby Despotovski and Damian Mori have a mortgage on the starting spots when fit but is hoping for a little more game time yet.

"If I can get a run off the bench I will be happy with that," he said.

Bob Figg

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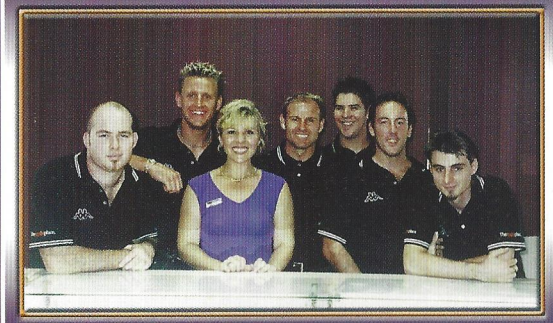

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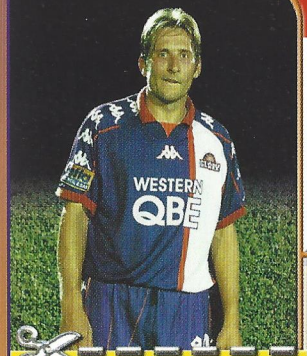

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JAMIE HARNWELL
A MODEL FOR SOCCER'S FUTURE

PERTH GLORY

Perth Glory centre-back Jamie Harnwell is a model footballer - in more ways than one.

The 23-year-old has made a success of his opportunities, but unlike some other soccer stars, he's already putting back into the game.

Harnwell was only too happy to help with the Woodvale Senior High School 'Soccer School of Excellence' when approached to be their own model for excellence.

The defender, scorer of six goals this season, was photographed in a sequence of pictures to show the biomechanics of movement required in heading, passing and shooting.

"It was good to do something like that," Harnwell said.

"I enjoyed putting something back into the game...it's part of my role as a professional at Perth Glory."

School of Excellence co-ordinator, Tony Ratcliff, said Harnwell was a perfect role model.

"He is someone my students can really relate to," he said.

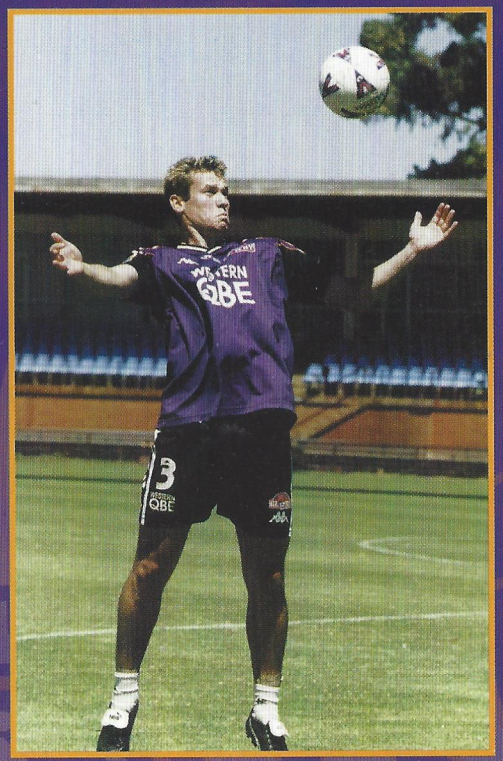
"He comes from the area, moving from Sorrento to be an integral member of one of Australia's most powerful clubs.

"We must thank him for his help. He was happy to help from the start and the students really look up to him. They think it's terrific.

"The pictures clearly show the stages of movement the body goes through to execute the skill at the highest level.

"The students analyse this, quite literally breaking down the different body muscles, bones and joints.

"It has been easy to see the improvement in their knowledge as well as their technical understanding of the skills."



Perth has five special soccer schools, the others being John Curtin College of the Arts, Forrestfield and Balga Senior High Schools and Clarkson Community College, all of which also offer soccer as a specialised course in physical education.

George Temple
British Soccer Week

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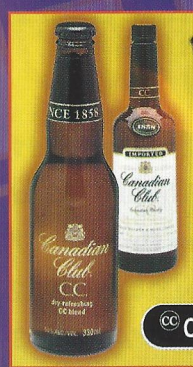

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THE JAMES CROFTS HOPE FOUNDATION

It's easy to get carried away in the euphoria of another Perth Glory home win, or to vent your frustration and pound your fists watching Bernd's boys stumble to defeat against struggling Newcastle recently - in a couple of days it's all forgotten and you're waiting for the next game.

However, for many people, life itself is a rollercoaster of extreme emotions, of hope one day and despair the next - and the problems don't just disappear with time.

One of these people is James Crofts, a bright and brave 14-year-old, who himself is a mad Glory supporter and who's been to several matches at Perth Oval. However, James has been battling a very aggressive and virulent form of cancer of the brain, called glioblastoma grade four, for the past two years. Currently this form of cancer has an extremely high fatality rate and doctors at the hospital have sent James home to die on numerous occasions during the past year - only James' sheer will to live and strength of character have seen him bounce back time and time again.

Recently, James went to America to receive treatment at the Burzynski Institute in Houston, Texas, using the ground-breaking genetic therapy - Antineoplastons. He returned to Perth a couple of weeks ago and received the wonderful news that there had been no growth in the tumour for six weeks and the treatment was working well.

However, the ongoing costs of the treatment have exhausted the family's resources and they are desperately trying to raise funds so James can continue his treatment. They have set up a charity that is dedicated to the recovery of James Crofts from cancer, but also to the enhancement of the quality of life for brain cancer patients and the advancement of the treatment and research of brain cancer in children.

And that is where Perth Glory and its fantastic supporters can help. The club will be auctioning an away shirt, worn by new Socceroo Scott Miller during last season's finals series, at the VIP function before today's match, with the funds going to the James Crofts Hope Foundation.

There will also be a special private screening of the new movie "The Mexican", starring Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts, at the Astor Theatre in Mt Lawley on May 4, with all money raised going to the James Crofts Hope Foundation. So if you fancy an evening at the movies, why not go along to this special screening and help raise some valuable funds for a very worthwhile foundation.

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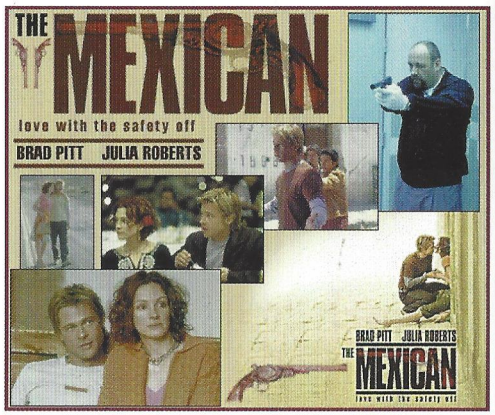

WHERE: Astor Theatre, Mt Lawley
WHEN: Friday, May 4, 2001
TIME: 6:00pm
COST: $16.50 Adult
$10.00 Concession (Drinks and nibblies included)
RSVP: Contact Helen McNamara on 9446 3115 or send an e-mail to *htmcnamara@optusnet.com.au* by Friday, April 27, 2001

If you can't make it to the movie but wish to contribute, donations may be made by either direct deposit to: The James Crofts Hope Foundation, Commonwealth Bank, 150 St Georges Terrace, Perth or by sending a cheque made payable to: The James Crofts Hope Foundation, PO Box 112, Innaloo, WA, 6918. **For more information, please contact Helen McNamara on 9446 3115.**

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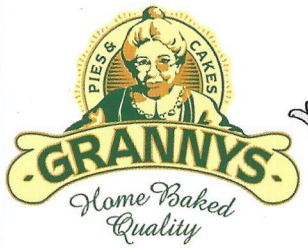

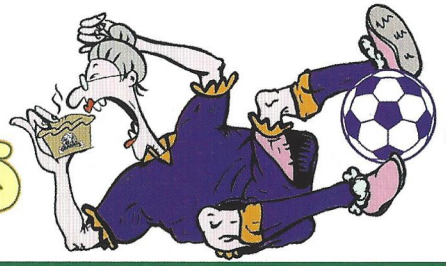

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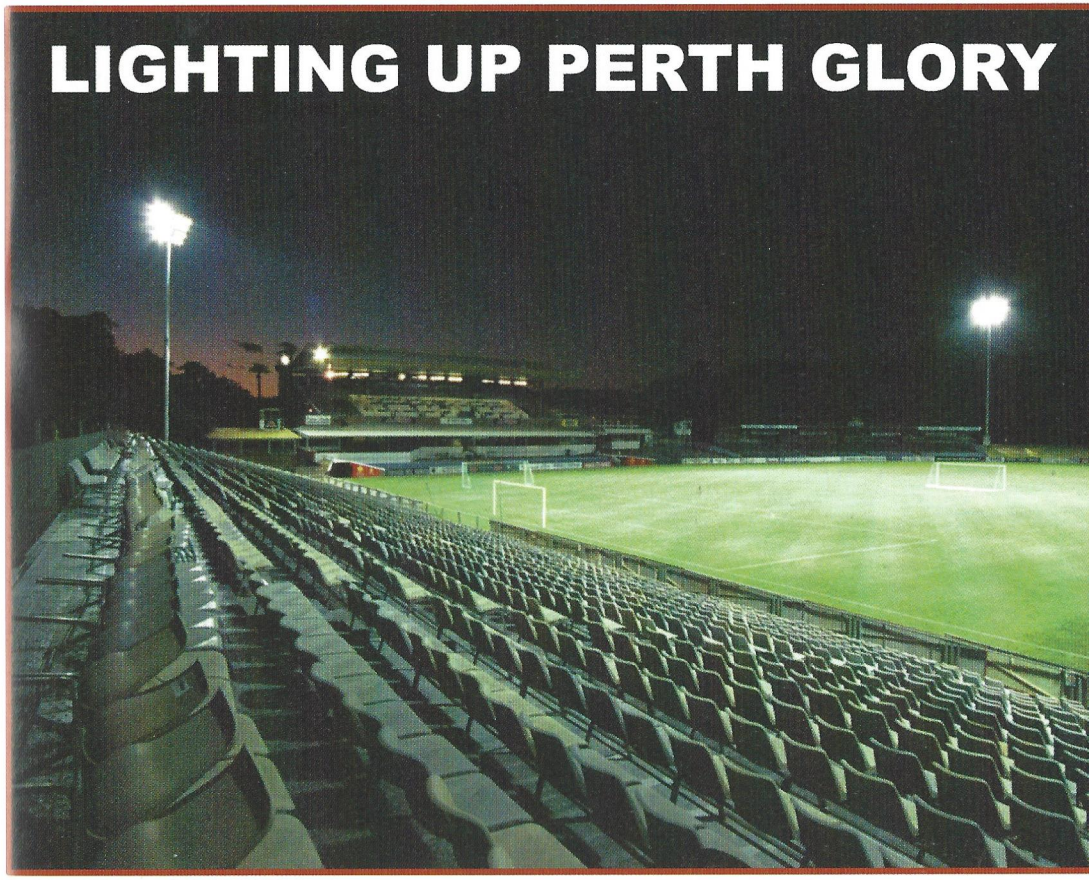

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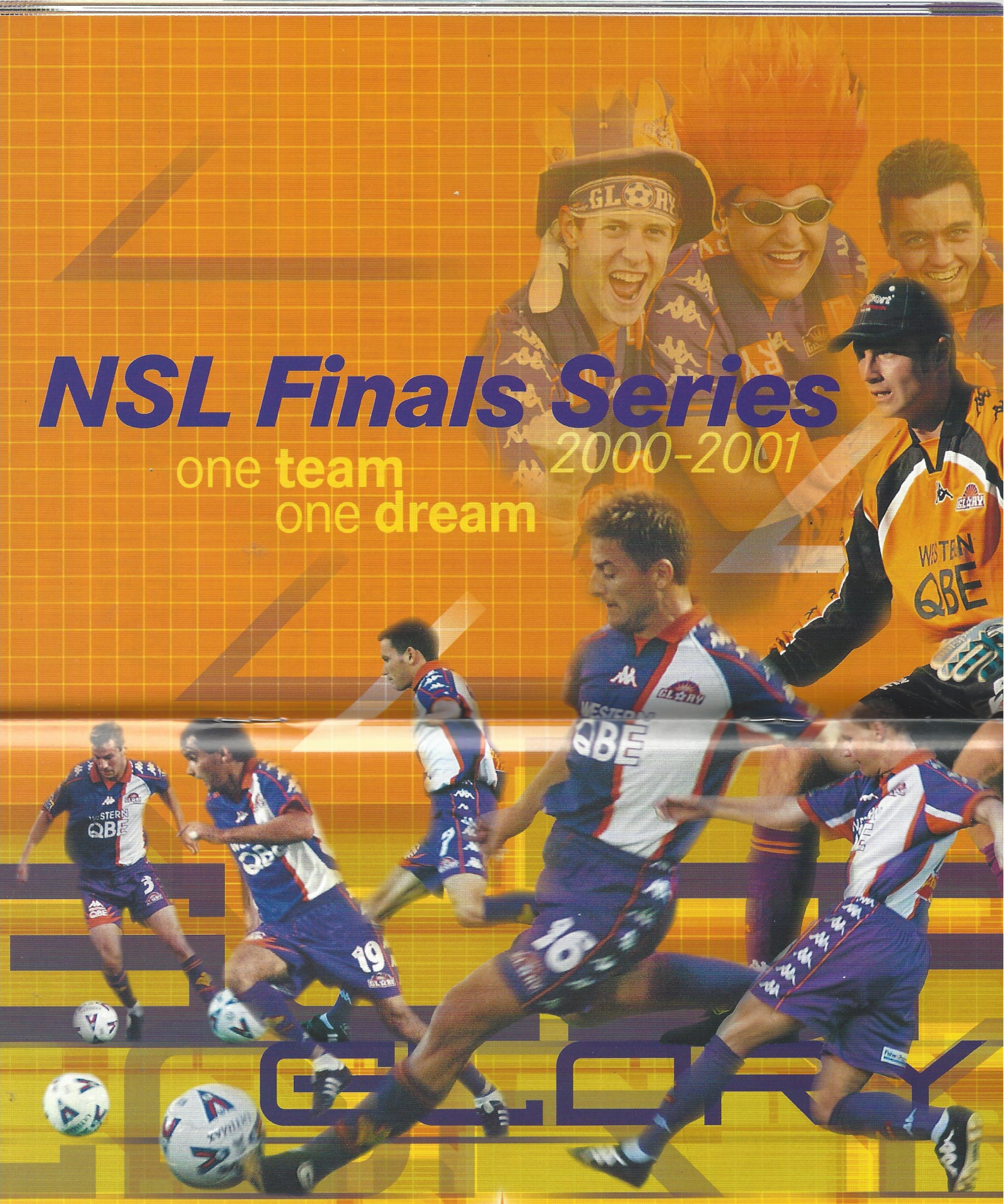

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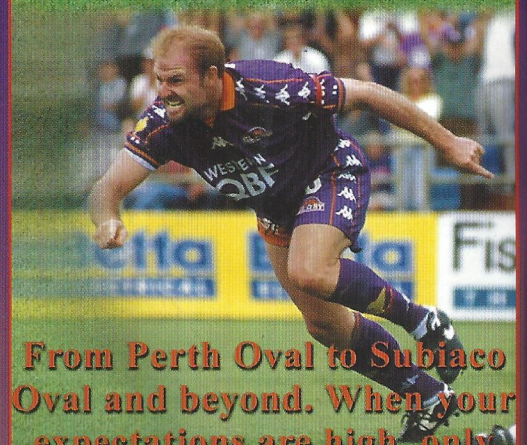

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EDGAR JUNIOR GETS GORY FOR PERTH GLORY

As Edgar Junior was led along the touchline to get treatment to a nasty facial cut during the clash against Melbourne Knights, it's rumoured he demonstrated an admirable grasp of Anglo-Saxon invective.

A stray elbow, allegedly, had opened up a nasty gash under Edgar's eye, but it was all part of the job for the man who always gets the opposition's toughest, or best, player.

When you are Brazilian and a footballer, certain things are expected. You should be able to bend soccer balls around corners, you are supposed to hit 50-yard passes onto heads of pins, or run from one end of the park to the other juggling the ball on your shin bones.

So when the diminutive Edgar took up position in front of a back three at his first training session and showed a penchant for tough tackling and easy option distribution, some eyebrows were raised.

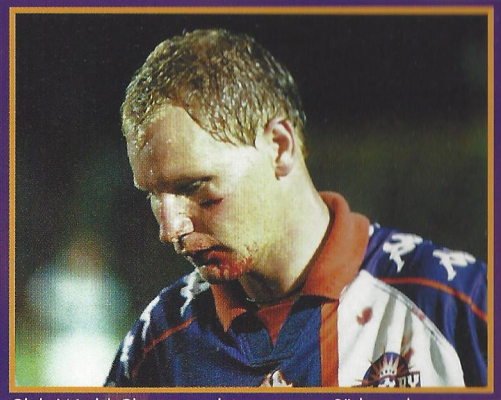
Two years on Edgar stands as one of the most successful imports the NSL has seen. There have been more eye-catching, more flamboyant performers, but if you polled coaches and players, Edgar's name would be right up there.

"Edgar has played two years for Perth Glory. He is hardly ever injured, he is such a professional, with good skills and he is so important for our team and so accepted. He has never made problems, he is hard working. Without Edgar Junior, we miss a very important player."

So says Bernd Stange, who along with Mich d'Avray, made the Brazilian the recipient of last year's Coaches' Award at the Glory's night of nights, the MGP Ball.

Edgar himself, sporting five stitches, "quite wide stitches too," he adds with a grin, laconically describes the Melbourne Knights clash as "a tough game, the same thing last year with Carlton".

In love with Western Australia, "the weather is so beautiful", Edgar has a year to run after this season and has one thing very much in mind. "Do they have a



Club World Championship next year?" he asks.

With the next Club World Championship scheduled for 2003, winning this year's grand final might earn Glory a play-off at least to get there and the Brazilian would clearly be very keen indeed.

"It would be beautiful to play in a Club World Championship, to play against South American clubs, it would be beautiful," he said, his eyes sparkling at the very prospect.

Edgar is confident that last season's heartache will make the Glory stronger in the finals this time around.

"We must win the games. The result is more important than the performance at this time of year."

You can be sure Edgar will play it tough, but fair.

"I enjoy playing good soccer. Hard tackles are okay but bad things like elbows are not good for soccer."

He can expect the hardest assignments and perhaps the last word on Edgar is best left to the man who'll assign those duties, Stange:

"Edgar is like Carlos Dunga, a former Brazilian player. He is a good team worker, he sees everything and you can believe me, everybody loves him in our team. He is a good man."

Bob Figg

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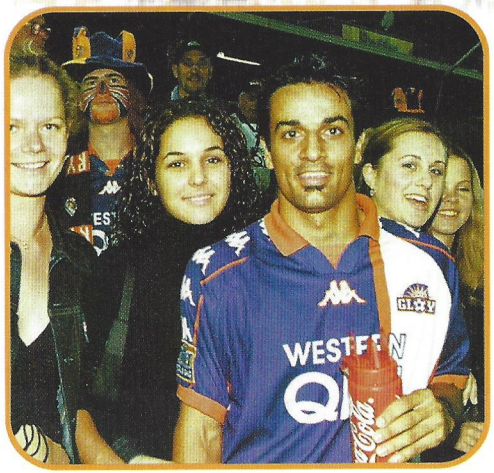
GARY FARIA

GLORY FOR THE GOLDEN LOCAL BOY



Gary Faria hasn't had as much time as he might have anticipated to help out in his father's busy ice cream parlour in the heart of Fremantle over the past seven months.

Such has been his impact with Perth Glory that the dashing midfielder has hardly had the chance to catch his breath in his rookie season in the NSL, let alone have the opportunities to dish out servings of ice cream.

Faria made his 22nd appearance of the season for the Glory when turning out against Brisbane Strikers last Friday.

Not bad for a player who didn't think he would make much progress beyond the substitute's bench in his first season.

"I certainly didn't expect to figure in so many games," said the modest Faria, whose skill, drive, commitment and versatility have been a boon to the Glory in what has been an injury-plagued campaign for the team.

"My expectations were to maybe make the bench a few times and, with a bit of luck, maybe get some runs under my belt. But I'm happy...and a bit surprised...with the progress I've made."

He didn't have long to wait to get his chance, coming on as a substitute in the first home game of the season against South Melbourne, replacing Brad Maloney on the right side of midfield after 82 minutes. He made his first starting line-up a few weeks later as a right wing-back in the game against Sydney Olympic at Perth Oval.

He then took the chance to cement his spot in the side when he replaced the badly-injured Maloney in the away game against Northern Spirit in late November and hasn't looked back.

What has made Faria's achievements all the more impressive is that he has played soccer almost non-stop for about 15 months without missing a beat.

He played nearly a full season with WA State league champion Fremantle City last year and then joined the Glory at the start of the club's pre-season exertions in August.

"I was given a week off when changing clubs, but I didn't go away on holidays or really relax...in fact, I couldn't wait to get going again," said the enthusiastic Faria, who had a brief taste of life in the Glory camp when he was loaned to the NSL club for one match in late January of last year.

He came on as a substitute for the injury-hit Glory in the 2-1 home win over Wollongong Wolves and coach Bernd Stange liked what he saw. Faria was quickly asked back to join in regular training.

"I thought I was pretty fit playing with Fremantle, but I could see even in that brief appearance that it was going to be a big step up to the NSL," said Faria, who has worked energetically to improve his touch and his speed.

"The pace is a lot quicker and you don't get as much time to bring the ball under control as you get in the local game," he said. "Your touch has got to be pretty good, otherwise you've got someone breathing down your neck pretty quickly."

Faria has put in the hard yards on the training track and on his own at the small gym he has created in his parents' home. "I've got a trampoline, a heavy boxing bag and a floor-to-ceiling speed ball and I work out three or four times a week," he said.

"I also go on plenty of bike rides and I've been grafting extra hard to improve my leg power with weights and to sharpen my take-off from standing starts."

He's also given extra attention to his shooting skills, which he demonstrated admirably with a spectacular debut goal in the 7-2 thrashing of Brisbane Strikers in January. He got another a few weeks later against Canberra Cosmos and his third of the season in the vital 2-0 away win over Marconi Stallions on April 7, two days before he celebrated his 22nd birthday.

So, what now for the boy from Freo who started as a junior with Fremantle United, progressed to Cockburn United and made the move back to Fremantle City, making his senior debut as a 17-year-old?

"I know a lot of players have overseas ambitions, but I wouldn't complain if I played for the Glory for the next 10 years," he said with refreshing honesty.

Faria has already had a brief flirtation with Europe...spending three weeks in a training camp with Italian side Torino a few years ago. He was invited to attend along with Freo teammates Kevin Correia and Michael Mirco and Robbie Puca, then with Perth and now with Eastern Pride.

"It was a great experience, but nothing came of it," he said. "Obviously if there was another overseas interest I'd have to think about it...but I'm not all that concerned for I'm totally focused on the Glory. There's a great bunch of lads at the club and we all want to do well and make amends for last season's grand final loss."

By Mel Moffat
of *The West Australian*

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AT HOME AGAINST MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

Ljubo Milicevic's bandaged head is becoming an end-of-season tradition, with a head injury in the last game of season 1999/2000 against Northern Spirit and now another this year courtesy of the feisty Melbourne Knights.

PERTH GLORY 1 MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 0

Despotovski 23

Half-Time score 1-0

Yellow Cards-

Perth Glory - Brad Maloney, Craig Deans, Gareth Naven

Melbourne Knights - Joel Porter, Alex Kiratzoglou, Lupce Acevski, Joey Rahjer

Attendance- 13,170

Perth Glory moved a step closer to securing a top-two spot with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over arch-rivals Melbourne Knights in a spiteful encounter at Perth Oval. Bobby Despotovski's brilliantly taken goal after 23 minutes proved the difference, but the home side could also thank keeper Jason Petkovic who made several superb saves in the second half as the Knights pushed for an equaliser. It was Despotovski who went closest early when he stuck out a foot to divert Ljubo Milicevic's long-range effort goalwards, but Knights keeper Lupce Acevski made a fantastic reflex save low down. However, Acevski was helpless soon after as the Glory took the lead via the route one path. Petkovic's huge clearance upfield dropped to Nick Mrdja and he threaded the ball through to Despotovski, who made light of a tight angle and the close presence of Rody Vargas to blast the ball into the roof of the net from 10 yards. Minutes later, Edgar Junior left the field with blood streaming from a cut under his eye, courtesy of an Andrew Marth elbow, as the match threatened to turn nasty. But the gutsy Brazilian returned after having several stitches inserted and almost made it 2-0 with a powerful low drive from 25 yards that Acevski did well to save. The Knights came back strongly after the break and Toto Da Costa saw a stinging shot deflected just wide, then Sasa Ognenovski glanced a header onto the roof of the net. Mrdja looked to have made it 2-0 when he flicked Jamie Harnwell's downward header over the line from two yards out, but referee Simon Micallef disallowed the goal, ruling Harnwell had illegally climbed on his opponent. With many of the crowd still unaware exactly what was going on, the visitors broke and Petkovic was forced to make a brilliant one-on-one stop to deny Da Costa. Despotovski almost grabbed his second in the closing minutes but his goalbound header from another teasing Kasey Wehrman corner hit the unknowing Rody Vargas and flew just wide.

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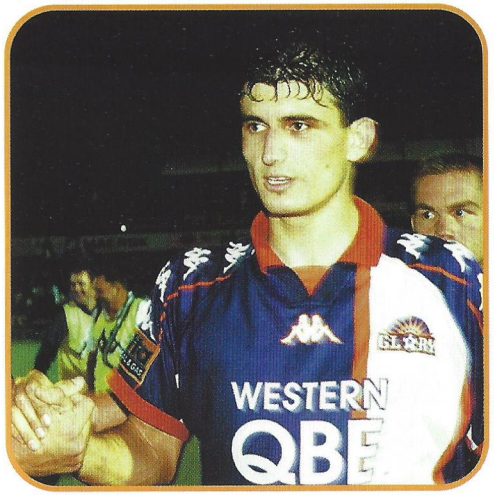
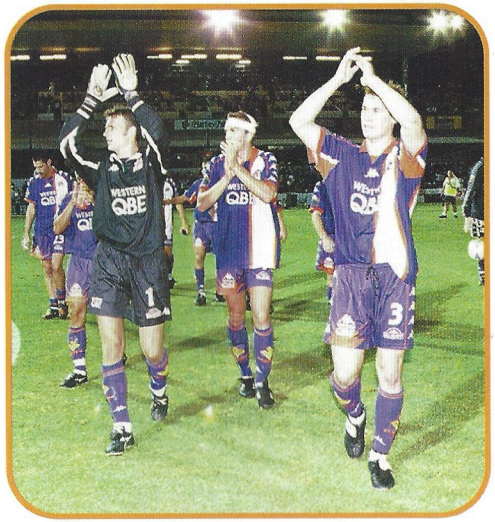


Young gun Nick Mrdja showed skill and wisdom beyond his years as he helped to control the game and was involved in the Glory's single goal in a hard fought 1-0 victory.



A victorious Perth Glory celebrate victory in front of the home crowd for the 10th time this season and let's hope for one more home win tonight on their road to the finals.

BEST FOR PERTH GLORY:

Jason Petkovic, Gareth Naven, Jamie Harnwell, Craig Deans

BERND STANGE'S REACTION

"We are very happy altogether to see another Perth Glory – a fighting face of Perth Glory tonight. It was a very tough opponent and we had to fight and battle up until the last minute."

Subs: : John Carbone for Maloney (59 mins), Vinko Buljubasic for Mrdja (88 mins)

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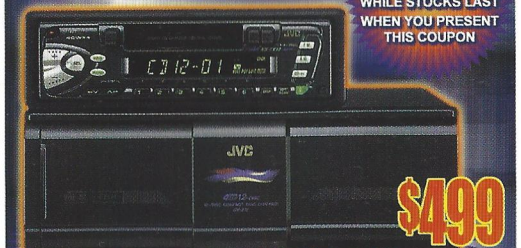

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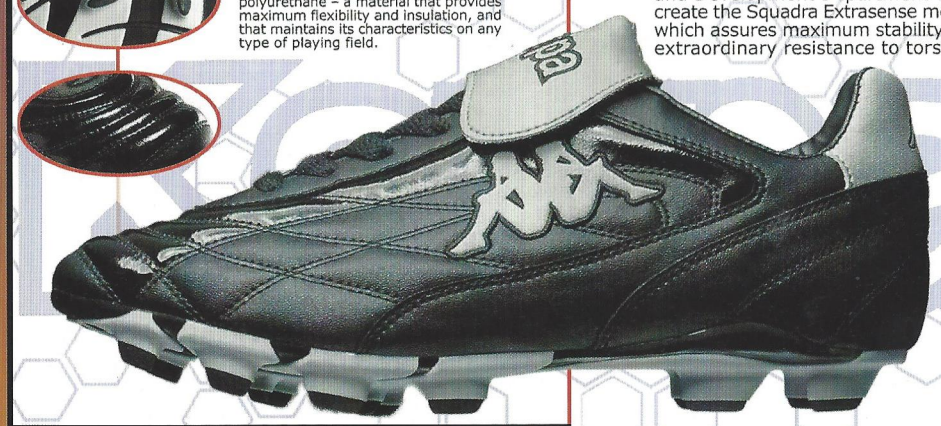

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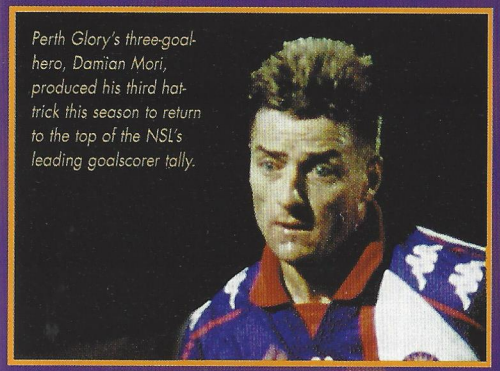

Perth Glory's three-goal-hero, Damian Mori, produced his third hat-trick this season to return to the top of the NSL's leading goalscorer tally.

Brisbane Strikers 1
Rech 35

Perth Glory 4
Harnwell 13
Mori 32,55,58

Half-Time Score: 1-2 **Attendance:** 1,590
Yellow Cards: Perth Glory - Bobby Despotovski
Brisbane Strikers - Jeromy Harris

Damian Mori returned from Socceroo duty to score a brilliant hat- trick and inspire Perth Glory to a 4-1 victory against Brisbane Strikers, a win that saw them consolidate second spot on the table. Jamie Harnwell grabbed the other goal as Bernd Stange's side capitalised on a shock loss by third-placed Wollongong earlier in the day, to move a step closer to the vital double chance. The Glory went ahead after just 13 minutes when Harnwell headed his sixth goal of the season after Brisbane keeper, Corey Baldock, made a terrible hash of Scott Miller's inswinging corner. Bobby Despotovski twice went close to doubling the lead; first curling the ball inches wide, then just failing to hit the target when Harnwell headed back across the goal after Kasey Wehrman had rattled the crossbar with a scorching free-kick. Peter Buljan, on loan to the Strikers from Perth, wasted a golden opportunity to equalise and Mori made the home side pay immediately, heading Brad Maloney's pin-point cross past Baldock to make it 2-0. Buljan atoned somewhat for his earlier miss, setting up dangerman Fernando Rech, who buried a low shot past Jason Petkovic. Brisbane started well after the break and Rech had two chances to level, before Mori showed how it should be done, finishing clinically from Despotovski's superb cross. Three minutes later, the match was all over as a contest and Mori had his third hat-trick of the season, tapping in from close range after more brilliant lead-up work from Despotovski. The visitors were hungry for more and only a desperate goalline clearance by Daniel Dreger prevented an own goal and a Glory fifth. Then in the closing minutes, Petkovic denied Jeromy Harris a small consolation for the Strikers with a brilliant one-on-one save.

Best For Perth Glory: Damian Mori, Bobby Despotovski, Kasey Wehrman, Jamie Harnwell

Bernd Stange's Reaction:
"I think it was one of our best performances."
"We did an excellent job, especially attacking soccer. Four away goals, that's a class performance and a good base for a good finals preparation."

Subs: Alistair Edwards for Miller (71 mins), Nick Mrdja for Despotovski (81 mins), John Carbone for Edgar (85 mins)

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PRIDE DAYS NUMBERED?

Eastern Pride may have played its last NSL match after Soccer Australia (SA) cancelled last Sunday's game against South Melbourne. The Pride is no sure thing to play its final two matches of this season's competition after players refused to accept the club's offer of paying up to six weeks' worth of outstanding wages by the weekend. SA in turn refused to sanction the Round 28 match if the club could not guarantee it would send its strongest side to Bob Jane Stadium. South Melbourne received a 3-0 win because of the forfeit while Wollongong Wolves, whose match against the Pride last week was postponed, will now also earn a 3-0 victory. Meanwhile, Canberra Cosmos has accused SA of bias in the NSL restructuring process, with chairman Danny Moulis claiming the governing body had given two clubs preferential treatment and another two 'get out of jail free cards'. The Cosmos, who were also deemed to be an unviable proposition for next year's NSL, will approach other clubs to canvass support for retaining Canberra and a Queensland side in the 2001/02 competition.

CROATIAN ACE LINES UP FOR BRAVEHEARTS

Croatian World Cup international Aljosa Asanovic made the first of two guest appearances for Sydney United in last Sunday's match against Sydney Olympic. He will play his second match for the Bravehearts in their final home fixture of the season against Football Kingz in Round 30. Asanovic spent a decade in the Croatian national team and was part of the side that came third at the 1998 World Cup.

RANGERS PAIR ON THE OUTER

Rangers boss Dick Advocaat has given his returning Australian players, Craig Moore and Tony Vidmar, the cold shoulder with both defenders sitting out Saturday's clash at Dundee. Asked about his Australians at the pre-match press conference, Advocaat said: "They are not in the squad." When queried whether either player was physically or mentally prepared for the game, Advocaat said: "I didn't ask them."

KEEP NATIONAL ANTHEM NATIONAL: PHILLIPS

The NSL plays the national anthem at every match (more than 200 times a season) and because of this, it might be advancing Australia a little too fair - too often. That's the opinion of South Melbourne manager Damien Phillips. "Our players, when they came back from Brazil, felt the anthem didn't mean as much to them in the NSL competition. It meant a lot to them when it was played in Brazil, but on a week to week basis, it is not as relevant," said Phillips. "We don't need the national anthem every week to remind us we're in Australia. I don't know of any other sport in this country that does it. On a week to week basis you should just get on with the game." Note: It is noted the basketball competitions, state and national, also play the national anthem.

MUSCAT WANTS DREAM QUINELLA

Kevin Muscat hopes to achieve a dream double next year - World Cup qualification with Australia and Premiership promotion with his club, Wolverhampton Wanderers. Speaking on the club's official website, the Australia international fullback said: "Everyone has dreams and I've fulfilled a number of my ambitions. Obviously, to play professionally abroad, which I am doing, and then to captain Wolves and the national team, which is an honour. But I still have a couple of ambitions left. To go to the World Cup would be great, as would being promoted with Wolves."

LIGHTNING PUTS SIX PLAYERS IN HOSPITAL

Six players involved in a surburban soccer match in Melbourne have been taken to hospital after lightning struck the pitch last Saturday. According to the 'Daily Soccer' website, an ambulance spokesman told ABC Radio they were all players in their late teens to early twenties. "While they didn't have any burn injuries, they weren't directly hit by the lightning but they did receive some peripheral damage to ankles and feet and a tingling sensation in their lower limbs. The lightning hit the ground and people in the nearby vicinity received little shocks through their feet." said the ambulance spokesman.

KEWELL ALMOST QUIT SOCCEROOS

Socceroo star Harry Kewell drafted a press statement announcing his retirement from international soccer last year, The Sun-Herald has revealed. The Leeds United player, who has had a tumultuous relationship with his national team, came within 24 hours of being lost to Australian football after an act of brinkmanship by his UK-based management. The London office of IMG, the firm that represented Kewell until last month, sent Socceroo coach Frank Farina a letter and prepared a press statement that Kewell would quit international soccer. The letter stated that Kewell's retirement was in the best interests of his career and would happen a week before Australia met the Czech Republic. Farina was given 24 hours to respond and managed to defuse the situation. Kewell was not selected for the March, 2000 Czech game, which the Socceroos lost 3-1. Farina and Bernie Mandic, Kewell's current agent and a former IMG employee, played down the incident but Kewell is clearly no closer to becoming a fully committed Australian squad member. If Soccer Australia invokes FIFA sanctions in a club-versus-country struggle, it is understood he will quit international football. Kewell is likely to play just two of Australia's eight matches before the 2002 World Cup - against the South American qualifier for a place in the finals. He will miss the Confederations Cup and Oceania play-off in June due to the birth of his child, and is unlikely to face world and European champions France in Australia in November.

Collected by Richard Kreider

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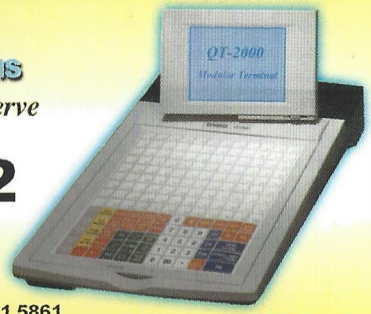
GST Ready

MAN UNITED LOOK TO FANS

The mystery Manchester United fan who suddenly appeared on the end of the United team as it posed for its team photo before last Wednesday night's quarter-final match against Bayern Munich says he has pulled off the biggest soccer sting of all time. Lifelong United fan, Karl Power (33), who bears a strong resemblance to United great Eric Cantona, said he had planned Wednesday night's stunt with friends for two years as if it was a 'military campaign'. The prankster said he accidentally took striker Andy Cole's position and the player had to muscle him out of his spot in the picture. "He didn't know what was going on, he didn't have a clue," Power said, "but Dwight Yorke, who was in front of me, knew what I was up to." After the stunt, Power put his tracksuit back on, mingled with incredulous photographers, and "just walked back to join my mates in the crowd".

VALENCIA ATTRACT ESNAL

Valencia is reportedly attempting to lure Alaves coach Jose Manuel Esnal to join them next season. Esnal is one of the hottest managers in Spanish football at the moment due to his phenomenal success with little-known Alaves, who were playing in the fourth division 11 years ago. According to the Spanish sports daily newspaper Marca, Valencia want Esnal to replace current coach Hector Cuper. The paper claims the club have reached a verbal agreement with the Alaves coach, known in Spain as 'Mane', to join them at the end of the present season. By then, he could have steered Alaves to victory in the UEFA Cup. This term they have taken Europe by storm and completed a brilliant run to the final of the UEFA Cup, where they'll meet Liverpool, with a stunning 9-2 aggregate win over Kaiserslautern last Thursday. In Esnal's first three seasons at the helm of the unheralded Basque side, he guided them from the second division to sixth place in the first, and qualification for the UEFA Cup. Cuper, who has taken Valencia to the Champions League semi-finals for the second year running, has already made it clear that he wants to leave at the end of the season. He steered Real Mallorca to victory in the Spanish Super Cup in 1998 and to the final of the now defunct Cup Winners' Cup in 1999, which they lost 2-1 to Lazio.

RELEGATED STRASBOURG IN FRENCH CUP FINAL

Demoted Strasbourg restored some pride last Friday when they reached the French Cup final with a 4-1 upset win over double title holders Nantes. Inspirational striker Peggy Luyindula opened the scoring on the half hour, before midfielder Pascal Johansen made it two 10 minutes into the second half. Strasbourg dominated the match as midfielder Pascal Camadini,netted his side's third goal after 72 minutes. Substitute Marama Vahirua pulled one back for the visitors with an 85th minute goal but it was far too little, too late. Luyindula was fouled inside the box in injury time and Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert scored the penalty which wrapped up the game. It was the French league leaders' first defeat in 17 French Cup matches. The defeat ended Nantes' chances of emulating Lille, the only first division side to have clinched three consecutive French Cups since the Second World War.

FIFA BOSS TO SEEK RE-ELECTION

Sepp Blatter has expressed his intention to seek re-election as FIFA president when his current term of office ends next year. Blatter said he will formally announce his intention to stand at FIFA's Congress in Buenos Aires in July. The election for the new president is due to take place in Seoul before the World Cup finals next year. Blatter was voted FIFA president in 1998, defeating UEFA president Lennart Johansson just before the start of the World Cup finals in France. Johansson, now 72, will not stand for election next time, but challenges could come from FIFA vice-president Dr Chung Mong-Joon, the president of the South Korean FA, or from Issa Hayatou of Cameroon, another FIFA vice-president and the president of the African Football Confederation (CAF). Asked about his proposal for a World Cup finals every two years, Blatter said the discussions are to resume on this matter after the new international calendar will come into effect in January 2002.

VODAPHONE DENY PREMIER LEAGUE TALKS

Mobile phone company Vodafone has denied it is in discussions over sponsoring English Premier League soccer. Vodafone, the world's largest mobile phone company, already sponsors English champions Manchester United, the England cricket team and the Derby horse race. The sponsorship of the Premier League is up for grabs when beer company Carling's contract expires at the end of this season.

VAN NISTELROOY SET TO SIGN FOR MAN U

Manchester United are getting closer to finally completing the signing of striker Ruud Van Nistelrooy from Dutch club PSV Eindhoven for 18 million pounds (AU$50m). United looked set to sign Van Nistelrooy for 18.5 million pounds ($51.7m) 12 months ago, but the transfer collapsed when the Dutch international suffered a cruciate knee ligament injury which ruled him out of action for 10 months. Although Manchester United clinched their seventh Premier League title in nine years the previous week, they were knocked out of the Champions League by Bayern Munich last Wednesday, the second straight year they have failed to get beyond the quarter-finals. The 24-year-old Van Nistelrooy could be the first of several top players to arrive at Old Trafford this summer as Alex Ferguson bids to win European soccer's most prestigious competition for the second time next season, which he has said will be his last as United manager. Meanwhile, the Red Devils have announced they will link up with Norway second division club, Oslo East. The agreement will run for three years and involves the Norwegian club scouting for United

TURKISH GIANTS FINED FOR TICKET SCAM

UEFA have confiscated more than AU$3.88 million and imposed a $400,000 fine on Galatasaray for ticket irregularities at last season's UEFA Cup final. European soccer's governing body reported that their Disciplinary Committee had decided to confiscate a total of almost $4 million from Galatasaray - the additional revenue acquired by the club who put their 12,149 tickets on sale at a higher price than that agreed with UEFA and the Danish organisers of the final staged in Copenhagen. UEFA had earlier decided to confiscate the extra money and fine Galatasaray 200,000 Swiss francs ($229,000) for the incident, but increased the fine to 350,000 Swiss francs ($400,000) when they turned down an appeal from Galatasaray last week.

PROSINECKI RELEASED FROM GREECE GAME

Croatia will be without its influential playmaker, Robert Prosinecki, for tonight's (Wednesday) friendly international against Greece because he was due to play for a World XI yesterday. The versatile, inspirational midfielder had been invited to play for the World side against a Romanian XI in Gheorghe Hagi's farewell match in Bucharest. Hagi is retiring at the end of a glittering career at the end of this season.

MALLORCA OWNER DIES

Spanish giants Real Mallorca played last weekend's first division match at Villarreal on Sunday in respect of the passing of its owner Antonio Asensio. Asensio (53) died in a Madrid hospital in the early hours of Saturday morning, after being ill for some time. Asensio's involvement with Real Mallorca coincided with the most successful period in the club's 85-year history. They reached the final of the 1998 King's Cup, losing on penalties to Barcelona, and then defeated the Catalan giants to win the Spanish Super Cup at the start of the following season. Meanwhile, Valladolid announced last Saturday that President Ignacio Lewin and two of his directors have resigned after failing to secure additional funds for the cash-strapped club. Valladolid are in 14th position in the 20-team Spanish first division, five points clear of the relegation zone.

PROSINECKI RELEASED FROM GREECE GAME

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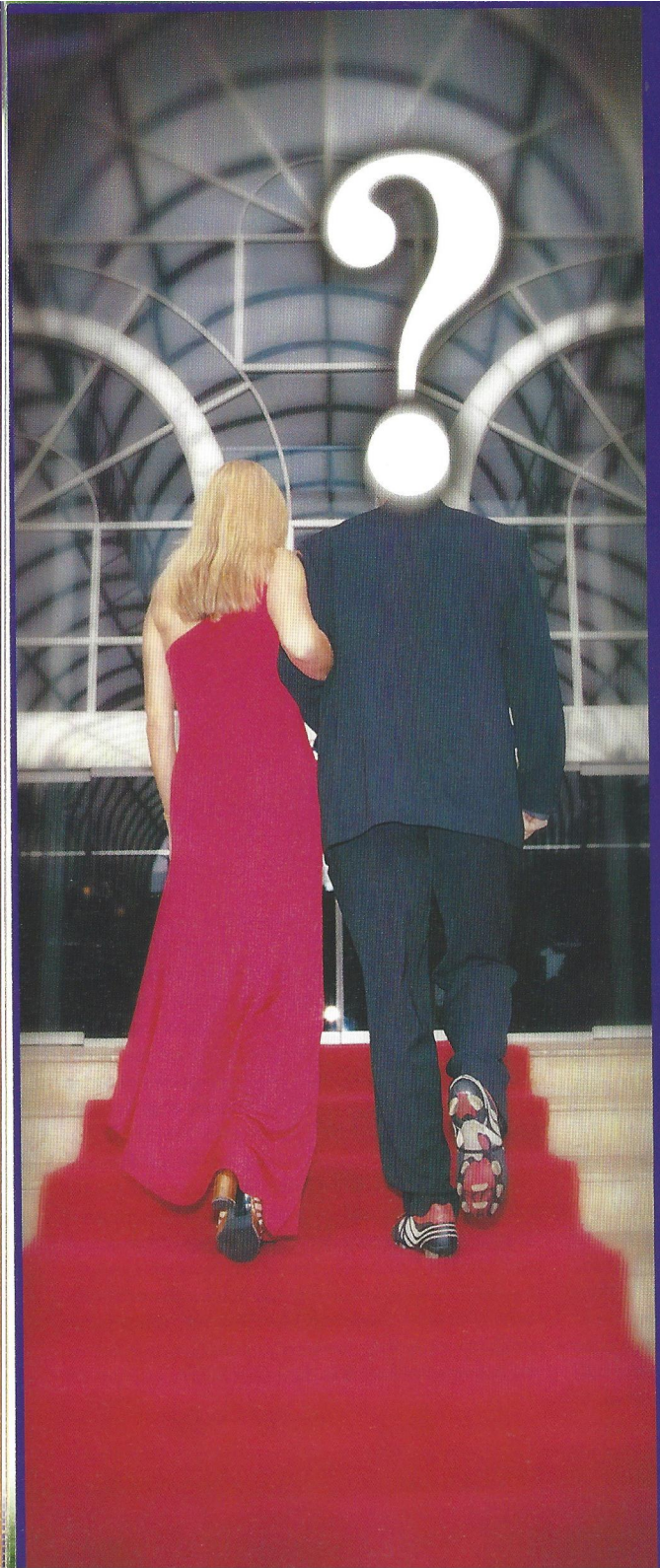
CANTONA CONFIRMS THAI TRIP

Manchester United's all time greatest player, Eric Cantona, has been confirmed to play in Thailand this May, where he'll lead the French beach soccer team. The side will play against a Thai team led by former local star, Piyapong-Pue-On, at the Impact Arena in Muang Thong on May 12. Cantona's team is expected to arrive in Thailand on May 7 and will spend some days in sunny Pattaya before returning to Bangkok for the TIPCO Pro Beach Soccer match. Meanwhile, the FA of Thailand (FAT) deputy secretary general, Ong-art Kosinkar, said that beach soccer has a bright future in his country. "Thailand is extremely suited for the development of beach soccer," he said. "We have plenty of sunshine, countless beaches and the spirit for this extremely exciting sport." Kosinkar also did not dismiss the possibility of having an actual Thai National beach soccer league sometime in the future.

Collected by Richard Kreider



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Most Glorious Player

FOR 2000/2001?

Find out at the most prestigious event on the Perth Glory calendar - the MGP Ball.

Sumptuous 4 course dining, live entertainment, opulent surroundings and an electric atmosphere of expectation promise to make this much anticipated black tie event, a wonderful evening not to be missed.

The MGP Ball will be held on Friday 8th June 2001 commencing at 7pm.

Venue: Hyatt Regency Grand Ballroom
Tickets are $110 per person (inc. GST) and tables of 10 are available.

Call Perth Glory on 9383 9911 for bookings.

PERTH GLORY

COMPETITION

Hoyts CINEMAS FANTASTIC FANATICS

PERTH GLORY

Each home game our photographers will be capturing images of the best fans in the land. So deck yourself out in Glory colours and show some team spirit. If your picture is circled above then you have won a double movie pass courtesy of **Hoyts Cinemas**. To claim your prize contact Sporting Issues on 9287 2222 and leave your name and address.

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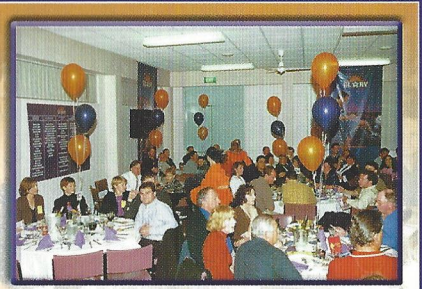

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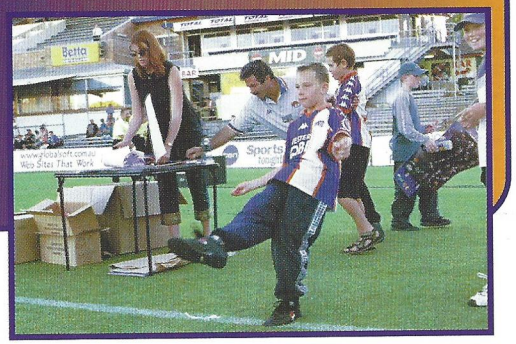
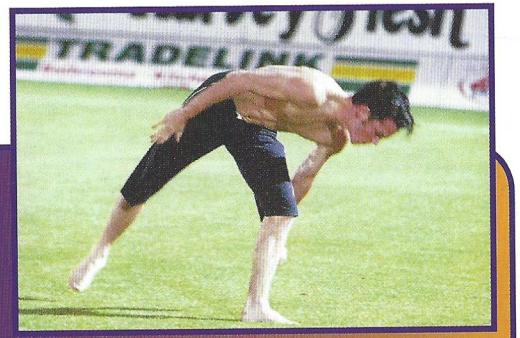
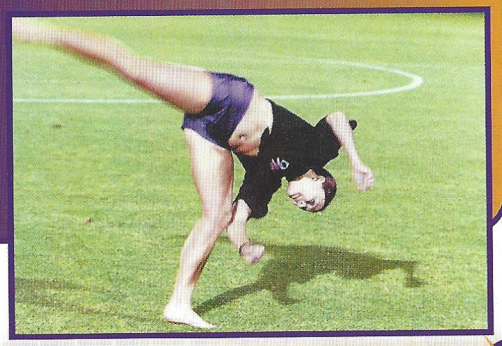
PROUDLY CATERING FOR PERTH GLORY



Budding Glory

With school holidays in full swing, it was that time of the season again and as usual, the Harvey Fresh Soccer Clinics were a tremendous success, with over 140 children taking part. Each day, eager boys and girls between the ages of six and 12, forgot about school and homework and made their way to Perth Oval for the three-hour sessions, dreaming of one day perhaps pulling on a Glory shirt and playing in front of 15,000 screaming fans themselves. Bernd Stange and Mich d'Avray coached the youngsters and all of the Glory players were there to pass on a few tips and keep an eye out for any up-and-coming talent. At the end of the three-day clinic, everyone was presented with a certificate, T-shirt, soccer ball, cap and other Glory items, and to complete a memorable few days, the children were able to meet their heroes properly, have a chat and get their autographs.





Flippin' Amazing

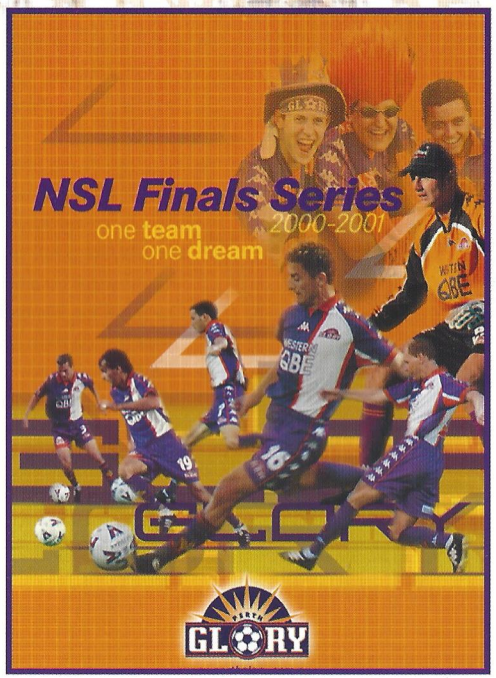
Stretching your muscles at half-time took on a whole new meaning at our last home game as a group of "super-gymnasts" took centre stage. One by one, the six participants flipped their way across Perth Oval to raise funds for the Glory's two nominated charities this season, ASeTTS and the Speech and Hearing Centre. Some of the club's very generous VIPs, Western QBE, Chicken Treat, Total Corporation, Maersk, Kim Gascoigne and EES Shipping, donated $5 for each birany (which is like a cartwheel without the hands touching the ground). The winning gymnast completed an incredible 60 biranies without stopping or touching the ground with their hands from start to finish, covering almost the entire length of the pitch. In total, the six contestants managed 216 biranies and, together with their sponsors, raised $1080.

Subiaco Oval To Host FA Cup Final?

A message to all Perth Glory members. Please note that if, as seems likely, the Glory play their first home final on Saturday May 12, there will be a live broadcast of the FA Cup Final between Liverpool and Arsenal in the Bill Walker Room (next to Gate 8), which will become the member's bar where the after-match presentations will also take place. Supporters will need to show membership cards upon entry.

Finals Poster Now Available

Celebrate Perth Glory's third successive finals appearance by picking up one of the limited edition finals posters available at today's match. The commemorative poster is a full-size version of the centrefold in this match programme and features several of your favourite Glory players. It is being handed out around the ground by the Glory dancing girls but if you do miss out on one today, you can still secure a copy by phoning the Glory office on 9383 9911.



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*If you live in WA outside the Perth metropolitan area you may incur additional installation and service fees. In some remote regions satellite services may not be available. Please call 1800 220 120 or visit www.foxtel.com.au for competition terms and conditions. Entries close 30/04/01. Major prize draw will take place at FOXTEL, Wharf 8 Pyrmont, NSW 2009 at 11am on 8/05/01. Winner's name will be published in the Public Notices section in The Australian on 12/05/01. Permit numbers: NSW Permit No. TC00/12746, VIC Permit No. 00/5470, A.C.T. Permit No. TP00/2498, S.A. T00/5180.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Perth Glory are now in their fifth season and although we've seen many players move on for various reasons during that time, it's always nice to follow the progress of former players. "Where are they now?" provides an update on some of these players who are still playing in the NSL or overseas.

Danny HAY
- Was not in the Leeds United squad that beat West Ham United 2-0 away in the Premier League on April 21, nor the team that lost 2-0 to Deportivo La Coruna away (won 3-2 on aggregate) in the Champions League midweek, but played a full game for the Leeds reserves side that beat Sheffield Wednesday reserves 2-0 at home on April 19.

Ivan ERGIC
- Came off the bench for FC Basel who drew 1-1 at home with St Gallen in the Swiss first division on April 14.

Danny MILOSEVIC
- Like Hay, was not included in the Leeds side that beat West Ham and Deportivo (on aggregate) but also played the full 90 minutes in the reserve side's win against Sheffield Wednesday reserves.

Troy HALPIN
- Round 27: Was replaced after 87 minutes for Sydney Olympic in their 2-2 draw at home to South Melbourne.
  Round 28: Was not in the Olympic team that lost 3-2 away to Sydney United.

Con BOUTSIANIS
- Round 27: Played a full game for South Melbourne in their 2-2 draw away to Sydney Olympic.
  Round 28: Did not play as South Melbourne's match at home to Eastern Pride was forfeited with a 3-0 win being awarded to Souths.

Vas KALOGERACOS
- Round 27: Came on after 64 minutes for South Melbourne in their away draw with Olympic.
  Round 28: Did not play due to Souths forfeited match against the Pride.

James AFKOS
- Round 27: Did not play as Marconi Stallions had a bye.
  Round 28: Was not in the Marconi side that won 1-0 away to Newcastle United.

Hamilton THORP
- Did not play for Parramatta Power in their 0-0 draw away to Northern Spirit in Round 27 or their 1-0 win at home against Adelaide City Force the following round.

Vasko TRPCEVSKI
- Round 27: Was replaced after 75 minutes for Newcastle United in their 3-0 win away to Sydney United.
  Round 28: Played a full game for Newcastle United in their 1-0 loss at home to Marconi Stallions.

Tony CARBONE
- Played a full match for Marine Castle United who lost 2-1 at home to Jurong FC in the Singapore first division on April 12.

Ernie TAPAI
- Missed Clementi Khalsa's 3-2 loss in the Singapore first division last weekend through suspension.

Gavin WILKINSON
- Signed with Republic of Ireland club Kilkenny City at the start of the year and is determined to help them win the FAI Cup before departing for a career in the US with Portland Timbers in the northern summer.

Chicken Treat

THE BIGGEST GLORY FANS AROUND AND AROUND.

LETTERS & QUIZ

Want to voice your opinions about the club? Or share some of your Glorious experiences? Or even your feedback or advice on our publication? Please try to keep all letters to under 200 words and if applicable we will gladly print any accompanying photographs you wish to send in. Then please send your letters to: Glory Mailbag, PO Box 44 Floreat 6014

Good Luck To The Glory Boys

Dear Glory,

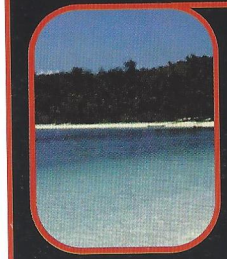
I'd just like to wish Bernd, Mich and all the players good luck in this year's finals series. A lot of people were criticising them earlier in the season when they were down around fifth or sixth but I kept believing in them and now it looks like we might even finish in the top two and have a chance of a home grand final. There were a lot of new players this season and it doesn't matter how good they are, it still takes time to settle at a new club and to learn to play with new teammates. People should give them a chance before making judgement and I think there might be a lot of humble pie being eaten in a few weeks' time.

Go Glory!

Always a fan, David Somers
Doubleview.

TRAVELAND GLORY GAZETTE COMPETITION

AND THE WINNER IS: Lauren Bradden



Congratulations to Lauren, whose name was drawn out from the 12 entries published in the matchday programme during the regular season. Lauren's match report, "The One That Got Away", was printed in the Round 11 programme for the game against Marconi and for her efforts, she wins a trip for two to the fabulous Gold Coast at the end of this season, thanks to Traveland, the official Perth Glory members travel agent.

Sporting Issues would like to thank everyone who entered throughout the season and Lauren can claim her prize by contacting Sporting Issues during the week on 9287 2222.

Traveland

QUIZ

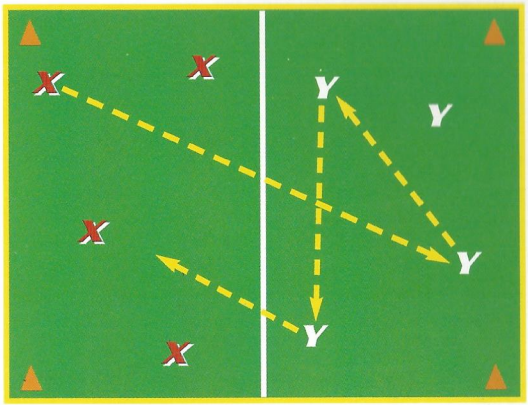
1. Who has made the most appearances as goalkeeper for Perth Glory?
2. How many Glory players have played in NSL finals for other clubs?
3. Who won last season's Most Glorious Player (MGP) award?
4. How many Glory players have made their NSL debuts this season?
5. Which fellow NSL club did the bulk of Parramatta Power's initial squad, including coach David Mitchell come from?
6. Which Oceania island did the Socceroos beat 31-0 recently to set a World Cup qualifying record?
7. Which English Division One side does Socceroo Kevin Muscat play for?
8. Who is the runaway top goalscorer in the Scottish Premier League?
9. Who is currently leading the Spanish first division?
10. Which former French national coach is now hoping to lead United Arab Emirates to the 2002 World Cup Finals?

Answers on page 46

SMARTER THAN SMOKING SOCCER SKILLS

WITH MICH d' AVRAY

A passing and control exercise for six or eight players. Ideally can be played on a tennis court, otherwise in a sectioned off area with cones and divided by a waist-high net or rope. A player from team **X** serves the ball into team **Y**'s area. The ball may bounce once only in each half (as in tennis). Team **Y** must gain control of the ball and juggle between the players aiming to return the ball back over the net to team **X**'s half without the ball landing more than once within their half or outside their area. Points are scored for each team when the other side fails to return the ball successfully into the opposition's half. Take care not to catch your feet on the net.



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MASCOTS

Our lucky mascots at our last home game against Melbourne Knights were Dean Clarke (Chicken Treat) and Mathew Cooke (Peters Glory Squad) pictured here with captain Gareth Naven.

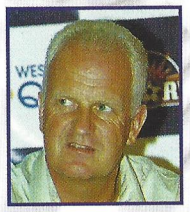
Sony Man Of The Match

If, as expected, Jason Petkovic does make the big move to Europe next season, he will leave enormous shoes to fill, as he again demonstrated with a brilliant performance against the Knights to win the Sony Man of the Match award. After a quietish first half, the big keeper made several crucial stops after the break to deny the visitors an equaliser, the most memorable a superb one-on-one save to thwart Toto Da Costa when the Glory were caught napping, with some of Petkovic's teammates still protesting about a disallowed goal at the other end seconds earlier.

Sony Club Man Of The Month

This time last year, not too many people around Perth would have recognised Gary Faria. But after surpassing even his own expectations and featuring in most of the Glory's matches this season, not to mention scoring three vital goals, he is certainly easily spotted by WA soccer fans now. And the 22-year-old has definitely been a hit off the pitch as well, keeping fans happy at his many promotional appearances for the club, which helped earn him the Sony Clubman of the Month award for March.

Four More Points Will Do The Trick

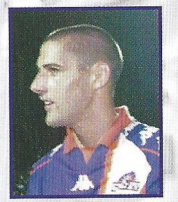


A win and a draw in its final two regular season matches will guarantee the Glory second spot on the table and a possible second successive home grand final. Bernd Stange's side currently have 58 points and, after their surprise loss to the Kingz last round, Wollongong are still on 55 and even with victories in their last two games, they can only reach 61 points, while Sydney Olympic (53 points) look to have blown their chances of a top two spot after crashing 3-2 to Sydney United on Sunday.

Socceroos Return To Glory

Welcome back to Perth Oval, Damian Mori and Scott Miller. After a successful Oceania World Cup qualifying campaign in Coffs Harbour, the two Socceroos are back in Glory colours this evening, playing at Perth Oval for the first time since helping the Glory thump Northern Spirit 4-1 back on March 10. Miller built on his recent national debut against Columbia, coming on at half-time in the Socceroos first game against Tonga, while Mori created another piece of Aussie goalscoring history, helping himself to four goals in the 22-0 demolition of Tonga to become the all-time leading scorer for Australia in international matches, with 26 goals.

No Time For Untimely Challenges



With the finals just around the corner and Bernd Stange's squad nearing full strength, it's not a good time to be sitting in the stands through suspension. Craig Deans was forced to miss the trip to Brisbane after picking up his fourth caution of the season (three for the Glory and one for Carlton) deep into injury-time against Melbourne Knights 11 days ago, but four other Glory players, Jason Petkovic, Gareth Naven, Brad Maloney and John Carbone are dangerously placed with three yellow cards going into today's game.

Glory Rates A Clear Winner

Perth Glory's gutsy 1-0 win over arch-rivals Melbourne Knights wasn't the club's only victory last Saturday week. The Glory were also clear winners on the big screen, with the viewing audience peaking at over 110,000 for Channel 7's delayed telecast of the match. Ratings figures show that 104,000 people tuned in to the coverage when it started at 9:00pm and that number had actually increased to 108,000 by the time the broadcast finished at 11:00pm. By comparison, Channel 9 averaged 50,000 viewers between 9:30pm and 11:00pm, while Channel 10 could only manage 35,000.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. Jason Petkovic 2. Ten 3. Gareth Naven 4. Two (Aaron Cole and Todd Harnwell) 5. Sydney United 6. American Samoa 7. Wolverhampton Wanderers 8. Henrik Larsson 9. Real Madrid 10. Henri Michel

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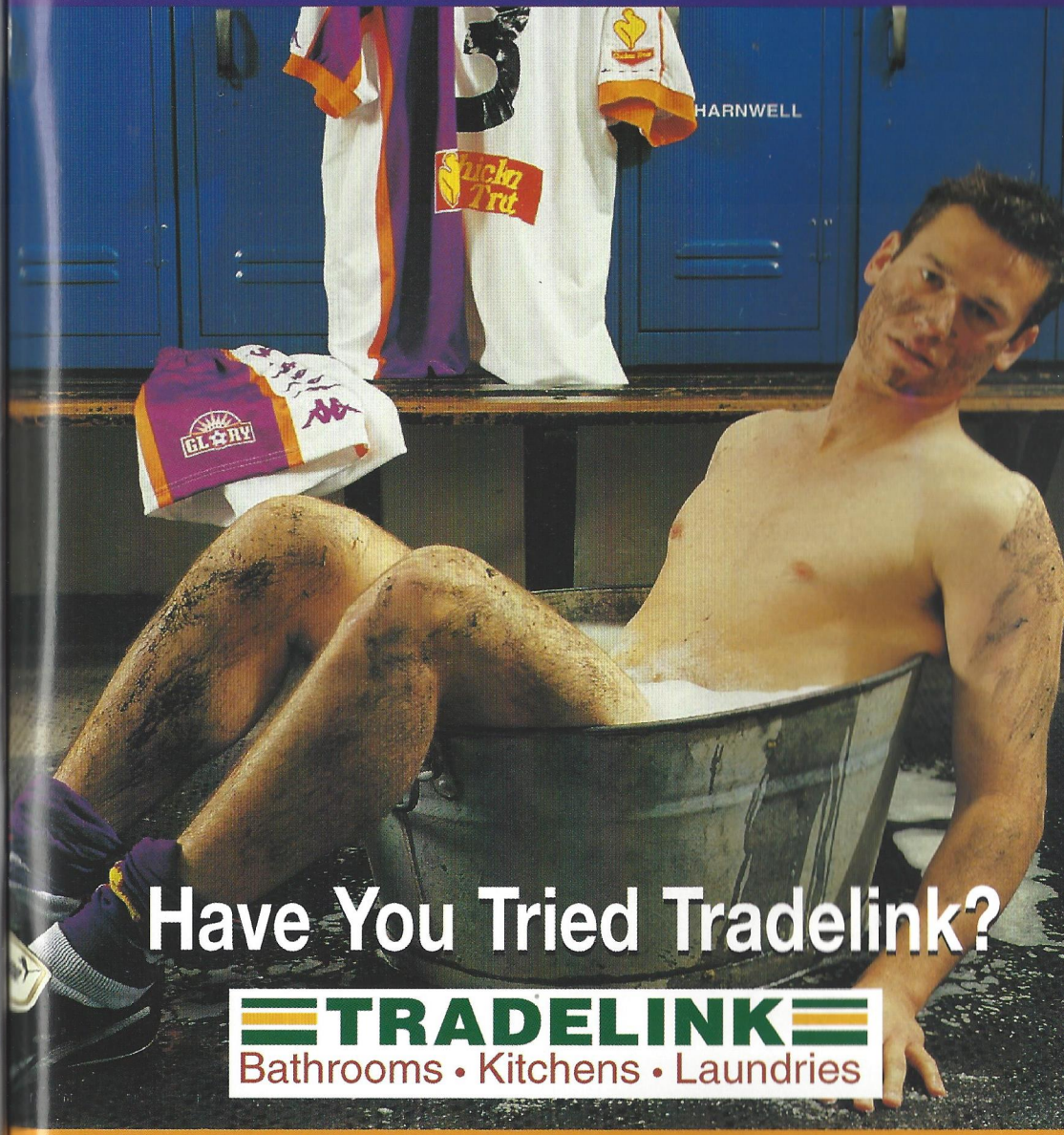

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